MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): തുറന്നുകൊടുക്കുന്നതു് കൊള്ളാമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു തോന്നിയതുകൊണ്ടു് തുറന്നുകൊടുത്തു.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*) : ഇനിയും തുറന്നുകൊടുക്കാനുള്ളസത്രങ്ങളും തുറന്നുകൊടുക്കാൻ കൊള്ളാത്തതുകൊണ്ടാണോ തുറന്നുകൊടുക്കാത്തതു്?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): ആ വിഷയം ആലോചനയിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്നതേയുള്ളൂ.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): ആലോചനയെ നയിക്കുന്നതായപ്രമാണം എന്താണു്?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): പ്രമാണത്തെപ്പറ്റിതീരുമാനപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടില്ല എന്നു മുൻപുപറഞ്ഞല്ലോ. തുറന്നുകൊടുക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് വിഷമം ഇല്ലാത്തതൊക്കെയും തുറന്നുകൊടുത്തു.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): ഗവണ്മെൻറു തുറന്നുകൊടുക്കാമൊ പാടില്ലയോ എന്നു നിശ്ചയിച്ചതു യാതൊരു പ്രമാണത്തെയും അടിസ്ഥാനപ്പെടുത്തിയല്ലേ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): സൌകര്യമാണു നോക്കിയതു്; പ്രമാണത്തെപ്പറ്റി വാദിക്കാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) : Are we to understand from the member that the Government have not accepted the policy of throwing open roads and satrams maintained with public funds, to all castes and creeds in the State ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : The policy has not been accepted by Government. The question is being gone into.

PRESIDENT : The house will now proceed to discuss the Budget demands. I may remind the members that the mover of the motion and the official member are allowed 10 minutes each and the other members 5 minutes each. The Demand, Land Revenue, is entitled to discussion for a day and precisely at 4-30, the whole outstanding motions will be treated as disposed of, and the demand as a whole will be put to the vote of the House.

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 9,03,114 under Demand I—Land Revenue.

Motion No. 1.

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ എസ്റ്റാബ്ലിഷ്മെൻറു വകയ്ക്കായി ഉള്ള ₹ ,൯൯൯ രൂപായിൽനിന്നു

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കരം ശുപകുറയ്ക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു. ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതു് റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു മുഖാന്തിരം അധഃകൃതക്കു് ഭൂമിപതിച്ചുകിട്ടുന്നതിൽ നേരിടുന്ന വൈഷമ്യങ്ങളെ ചൂണ്ടിക്കാണിക്കുന്നതിനാണു്.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): On a point of order, Sir. This is a motion for a cut of the allotment under 'Establishment'. I wish to know whether the mover can discuss anything which does not relate to that particular budget head. He has now begun to discuss about the assignment of lands to the depressed classes. I want a ruling whether such general questions can be discussed under motions relating to specific budget heads or only under a token cut of the total allotment.

PRESIDENT: The practice hitherto has been to allow considerable latitude in this matter; and I propose to continue that practice. Therefore even under motions relating to specific budget heads, the policy to be followed by the Land Revenue Commissioner, by the Dewan Peishkars, and by the Department generally, can be discussed.

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ നിന്നു് ഭൂമിപതിച്ചുകിട്ടുന്നതിൽ അധഃകൃതക്കുള്ള അവശതകളേയും അതിലേയ്ക്കു ഏതാനും പരിഹാരമാർഗ്ഗങ്ങളെയും ചൂണ്ടിക്കാണിയ്ക്കണം എന്നുള്ളതാണു് എന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശമെന്നു് മുൻപു ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞല്ലോ? സമർത്ഥനും കർമ്മകുശലനും ആയ ഒരു ലാൻറുറവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണർ ഉള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു് ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് ആശ്വാസത്തിനും സന്തോഷത്തിനും വകയുണ്ടെന്നു് വിശ്വസിക്കയും അദ്ദേഹത്തെ ലാൻറുറവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണരായി നിയമിച്ചതിലുള്ള സന്തോഷത്തെ പ്രദർശിപ്പിയ്ക്കയും ചെയ്തുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

അധഃകൃതർ ഈ നാട്ടിൽ കുടിപാർപ്പിനസ്ഥലം ഇല്ലാത്തവരാണെന്നുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടാണു് ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നു സൌജന്യമായിരുന്ന ഭൂമി ഇവർക്കു് പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കണമെന്ന ഉത്തരവു പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു്. എന്നാൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ താല്പര്യം അനുസരിച്ചല്ല റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെകീഴ്സിൽബന്ധികൾ പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നതു് എന്നുള്ളതു് ഇതുയും കാലമായിട്ടും അവർക്കു് ന്യായമായവിധത്തിൽ ഭൂമിപതിച്ചുകിട്ടുന്നില്ല എന്നുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടുതന്നെ അനുമാനിയ്ക്കാവുന്നതാണു്. അധഃകൃതർക്കു് തൊഴിൽകിട്ടുന്നതിനു സൌകര്യം ഉള്ളതായി ജനങ്ങൾ അധികം താമസിക്കുന്നസ്ഥലത്തുതന്നെ ഭൂമിപതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്നവിഷയത്തിൽ ലാൻറുറവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധപതിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതായിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഇപ്പോൾ ഇവർക്കു പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്നതിനായി തിരിച്ചിട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഭൂമി തൊഴിൽ കിട്ടുന്നതിനു സൌകര്യമില്ലാത്തസ്ഥലങ്ങളിലാണു്

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[Mr. N. John Joseph.]

സ്ഥിതിചെയ്യുന്നതു്. പോരെങ്കിൽ ഈ സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ ഒട്ടുമിക്കാവും കൃഷിയ്ക്കുപയുക്തമല്ലാത്തതും നിവാസയോഗ്യമല്ലാത്തതും ആണു. അഥവാ വല്ലസ്ഥലങ്ങളും നല്ലതായിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്നാൽ റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ കീഴ്സിൽബന്ധികൾ സ്വാധീനബലമുള്ളവരു സമുദായക്കാക്കു പതിച്ചു കൊടുത്തുകൊണ്ടുവരികയാണുചെയ്യുന്നതു്. ഈ കീഴ്സിൽബന്ധികളുടെ ഉപദ്രവം ഉള്ളകാലത്തോളം അധഃകൃതക്കു നല്ല ഭൂമിപതിച്ചുകിട്ടാൻ സാധിക്കയില്ലെന്ന വ്യസനസമേതം പറയേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു.

അധഃകൃതക്കായി ഒഴിച്ചിടപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ള ഭൂമികളിൽ ഉള്ള കയ്യേറ്റത്തെതടയാനായി ഗവണ്മെൻറു പലവിധത്തിലും ശ്രമിച്ചുവരുന്നുവെങ്കിലും ഇതുവരെ അതു സാധിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. അധഃകൃതക്കുപതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കാനുള്ള ഭൂമി മറ്റുള്ളവക്കു പതിച്ചുകൊടുത്തതിന്മേൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നുയാതൊരു ആക്ഷേപവും എടുക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ടാണു ഇതു സാധിയ്ക്കാതെ വന്നതു എന്നു തോന്നുന്നു. അധഃകൃതക്കായി ഒഴിച്ചിടപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ള ഭൂമികളെ മറ്റാക്കെങ്കിലും പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ക്രിമിനൽനിയമപ്രകാരം അവരെ ശിക്ഷിയ്ക്കുണ്ടതാണു്. ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു വ്യവസ്ഥയുണ്ടായിരുന്നാൽ ഇതിന് ഒരു ഒത്തുക്കംവരും എന്നുള്ളതിന് യാതൊരു സംശയവും ഇല്ല.

അധഃകൃതക്കു പതിച്ചുകിട്ടുന്ന ഭൂമി കൃഷിയ്ക്കുപയുക്തമല്ലായെന്ന് ഞാൻ മുൻപുതന്നെ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചല്ലോ? അവക്ക് കൃഷിയ്ക്കുപയുക്തമായ ഭൂമിതന്നെ നോക്കിപതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം വേണ്ട നിഷ്കർഷകൾ പേഷ്കാരന്മാരോടും തഹശീൽദാരന്മാരോടും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും അവർ അതുശരിയായി നിർവ്വഹിച്ചുവരുന്നില്ല. ഇതിനു മുൻപുതന്നെ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധപതിപ്പിച്ചിരുന്നു എങ്കിൽ അധഃകൃതക്ക് കൂടുതൽ ഭൂമി കിട്ടുന്നതിനു സൌകര്യം ലഭിക്കുമായിരുന്നു.

വനങ്ങളിൽനിന്നു ഒഴിച്ചിടപ്പെട്ട ഭൂമികളിൽ ഇരുപതുശതമാനം അധഃകൃതക്കായി നീക്കിവയ്ക്കണമെന്ന് ഒരു ഗവണ്മെൻറുത്തരവുണ്ടു്. അതനുസരിച്ചും ശരിയായിനടക്കുന്നില്ലെന്ന് ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ അറിയിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. അധഃകൃതക്ക് ഭൂസ്വത്തു് ഇല്ലാത്തിടത്തോളം കാലം അവരെ പൌരന്മാരായിട്ട് ഗണിക്കുന്നതിന് നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. ഈ കഴിഞ്ഞ തിരഞ്ഞെടുപ്പിൽതന്നെ നോക്കുന്നപക്ഷം സംസ്ഥാനംഒട്ടുക്ക് അധഃകൃതരുടെ ഇടയിൽ ഭൂസ്വത്തുള്ളവരായി നാലോ അഞ്ചോ പേർ കണ്ടേയ്ക്കാമെന്നല്ലാതെ വേറെ ആരും തന്നേയില്ല. ഭൂസ്വത്തില്ലാതെ തിരുവി

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താംക്രറിലെ പൌരന്മാരെന്നനിലയിൽഉള്ള യാതൊരു പുരോഗമനത്തിനും അവക്ക് വഴിയുമില്ല. അതിനാൽ ഇവക്ക് ഭൂമിപതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്നവിഷയത്തിൽ വേണ്ട നിഷ്കർഷകൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ചെയ്യണമെന്ന് ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. അധഃകൃതക്ക് ഭൂമിപതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്ന വിഷയത്തിൽ ലാൻറുറവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണരെ ഉപദേശിക്കുന്നതിനു തയ്യാറായിട്ട് ചില സഹൃദയന്മാരായ മെമ്പറന്മാർ ഈ അസംബ്ലിയിൽ ഉണ്ട്. അവരെത്തന്നെ മുമതലപ്പെടുത്തി ഒരു കമ്മിറ്റിയെ നിയമിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

അധഃകൃതസംരക്ഷകൻ എന്ന ഒരാളുണ്ട്. അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു് അധഃകൃതോദ്ധാരണ വിഷയത്തിൽവേണ്ട പ്രോത്സാഹനംനൽകി പ്രവർത്തിപ്പിക്കണം എന്നുകൂടി എനിയ്ക്കുപേക്ഷയുണ്ട്.

അധഃകൃതക്ക് സൌജന്യ നിരക്കിൽ ഭൂമി പതിച്ചു കൊടുക്കണമെന്നും അതിലേയ്ക്കായി പ്രത്യേകം ഭൂമി ഒഴിച്ചിട്ടിരിക്കുന്നു എന്നും പ്രഖ്യാപനം ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു വളരെക്കാലം മുൻപു മുതലേക്കു അധഃകൃതർ ഓരോ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ സ്ഥിരമായ ഭേഹണ്ഡങ്ങളും ചെയ്തു താമസിച്ചു വരുന്നുണ്ട്. അവക്കു ഭേഹണ്ഡങ്ങളും ഉപേക്ഷിച്ചു പെട്ടെന്നു ഇറങ്ങിപ്പോകാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. ഇങ്ങനെ താമസിക്കുന്ന ആളുകളോടു പ്രവർത്തികാരന്മാർ കാണിയ്ക്കുന്ന കടുംകൈ അസഹനീയമാണ്. "നിങ്ങൾക്ക് ഈ സ്ഥലം പതിച്ചു തരാൻ അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടില്ല, നിങ്ങൾക്കു വേറെ സ്ഥലം ഒഴിച്ചിട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്" എന്നൊക്കെ പ്രവർത്തികാരന്മാർ പറഞ്ഞു അവരെ ബഹിഷ്കരിയ്ക്കുകയാണ് ചെയ്യുവരുന്നതു്. പത്തും നാല്പതും വർഷം സ്ഥിരമായ ഭേഹണ്ഡം ചെയ്തു താമസിച്ചിട്ട് കണ്ണുനീരോടുകൂടി ഇറങ്ങിപോകേണ്ടിവരുന്നതു ഏറ്റവും ദയനീയമായ ഒരു സംഭവമാകുന്നു. അതിനാൽ വളരെക്കാലം ഭേഹണ്ഡം ചെയ്തു താമസിക്കുന്നവക്കു ആ ഭൂമി തറവില കെട്ടിവയ്ക്കാൻ ശക്തിയുള്ളവരാണെങ്കിൽ തറവില കെട്ടിവയ്പ്പും അല്ലാത്തപക്ഷം സൌജന്യമായും അവക്കു തന്നെ പതിച്ചു കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. വളരെക്കാലമായി താമസിക്കുന്ന ഒരു സ്ഥലത്തുനിന്നും ഇറക്കിവിട്ട് വളരെ ദൂരെ പോയി അവർ ഭൂമി സമ്പാദിച്ചു കൊള്ളണം എന്നു വരുമ്പോൾ അതു അവരുടെ ആയുസ്സിനെക്കൂടി നഷ്ടപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതാണ്. പേഷ്കാരന്മാരും തഹശീൽദാരന്മാരും പ്രവർത്തികാരന്മാരുടെ റിപ്പോർട്ടുവച്ചും കൊണ്ടാണ് പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നതു്. പ്രവർത്തികാരന്മാർ ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള കടുംകൈകൾ കാണിയ്ക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു മേലുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ഇവരുടെ റിപ്പോർട്ടു മാത്രം വച്ചുകൊണ്ടു പ്രവർത്തി

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[Mr. N. John Joseph.]

യ്യാതെ വേണ്ട അന്വേഷണങ്ങളും നടത്തി പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നതിനു ഏർപ്പാടു ചെയ്യണം.

ജനവാസം ഇല്ലാത്തതായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ അധഃകൃതർക്കു ഭൂമി പതിച്ചു കൊടുക്കുന്നതു കൊണ്ടു ഒരു പ്രയോജനവും ഇല്ല. ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു കരംപോലും ഈടാക്കുന്നതിനു സാധിക്കുന്നതല്ല. ഒരു കുടുംബത്തിനു കൃഷിചെയ്തു കാലക്ഷേപം കഴിയ്ക്കുണമെങ്കിൽ മുന്നേക്കറെങ്കിലും സ്ഥലം കിട്ടാതെ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. എന്നാൽ അവർക്കു എട്ടും പത്തും സെൻറു ഭൂമിയാണ് മറ്റുള്ളിടങ്ങളിലും പതിച്ചു കൊടുക്കുന്നതു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു അവരുടെ കുട്ടികളെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം ചെയ്യിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനോ കാലക്ഷേപത്തിനുള്ള മാർഗ്ഗം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനോ യാതൊരു നിവൃത്തിയും ഇല്ല. ഈ സംഗതിയിലും ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻറെ ദൃഷ്ടി പ്രത്യേകം പതിയണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ഉൽബോധിപ്പിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു.

സ്ഥലം പോയി പരിശോധിച്ചു ശേഷമല്ലാതെ പ്രവർത്തിയാതെ റിപ്പോർട്ടിൻമേൽ യാതൊരു തീരുമാനവും ചെയ്യരുതു് എന്നു് വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്യണമെന്നു് അവസാനമായി പറഞ്ഞു കൊണ്ടു ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻ ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Sir, I wish to second the motion moved by Mr. John Joseph.

PRESIDENT : There is no need to second these cut motions.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (*Nominated*): സർ, മി. ജോസഫ് അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻ അനുകൂലിക്കുകയാണ് ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. ഈ രാജ്യത്തിലെ 40 ലക്ഷത്തിൽ പരം വരുന്ന പ്രജകളുടെ കൂട്ടത്തിൽ ജീവിതസൌകര്യം തീരെയില്ലാതെ തുച്ഛീകരമായി ഉണ്ണാനും ഉടുക്കാനും ഇല്ലാതെ വസ്ത്രവും വിദ്യയുമില്ലാതെ വളരെ കഷ്ടതകരം അനുഭവിക്കുന്നതിനും പുറമെ, കയറി കിടന്നുറങ്ങുന്നതിനുപോലും സ്വന്തമായി ഭൂമിയില്ലാത്ത അവശത അനുഭവിച്ചു പോരുന്നതു് ഈ രാജ്യത്തിലെ അധഃകൃതവർഗ്ഗക്കാർ മാത്രമാണ്. ഈ സാധുജനങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു മി. ജോസഫ് തന്നെ ഇവിടെ സവിസ്തരം പ്രതിപാദിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞു. ഭൂമി പതിപ്പു വിഷയത്തിൽ ലാൻറ് റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നു തുടർച്ചയായി ചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന വലിയ സഹായസഹകരണങ്ങൾകൊണ്ടുമാത്രം ഇവരുടെ പൊതുവെയുള്ള സുഖസൌകര്യാദികൾക്കു മതിയാകുന്നില്ലെന്നുള്ള വിവരം സൂക്ഷ്മവീക്ഷണം ചെയ്യുന്ന

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വക്കേവക്കുമറിവാൻ കഴിയുന്നതാണ്. കർഷകവൃത്തിയുടെ നട്ടെല്ലാ
യ അധഃകൃതരുടെ ജീവിതസൌകര്യത്തിനു, അതായതു ഇവർ അനുഭവി
ച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന സങ്കടാവസ്ഥയ്ക്കു, പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാകുന്ന വിഷയത്തി
ൽ ഭൂമി സ്വാധീനവും അത്യാവശ്യമായിട്ടാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇതില്ലാതെ
അതിനൊരു പരിഹാരം നിർവിഘ്നം ഉണ്ടാകുവാനുണ്ടോ എന്നു് സംശ
യമാണ്. ഈ രാജ്യത്തു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു യാതൊരു വിധമായ ആദാ
യത്തിനും മാർഗ്ഗമില്ലാതെ ധാരാളം ഭൂമികിടപ്പുണ്ടു്. ഭൂമിയില്ലാത്തവർക്കു
ഭൂമി പതിച്ചു കൊടുക്കുന്ന വിഷയത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നു ഉണ്ടാ
ക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള കല്പനകളും പൂർണ്ണമായ രീതിയിൽ നിർവഹിച്ചിട്ടില്ലെന്നു
മുള്ള വിവരം നിസ്സംശയം പറയാവുന്നതുതന്നെയാണു്. ഗ്രാമവൽപ്പുനഃപ
രിപാർപ്പിനു സ്വന്തമായി ഭൂമിയില്ലാതെ സങ്കടങ്ങളനുഭവിച്ചു പോരുന്ന
കുറവർ മുതലായ ജനങ്ങളുടെ പ്രസ്തുത ആവശ്യം യഥായോഗ്യം നിറവേ
റ്റേണ്ട കടമ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനുണ്ടെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു. മുന്നൂറും നാലും
ഏക്കർ വീതമല്ല, സ്വന്തമായി ഒരോ കുടിൽ കെട്ടി താമസിക്കുന്നതി
നെങ്കിലും ഭൂമി നൽകി സഹായിക്കേണ്ടതാണു് ഭൂമി ഇല്ലായ്മയുടെ
ടെ സങ്കടവിവരം ഒരു പക്ഷേ ഗവണ്മെൻറും അറിഞ്ഞിരിക്കാൻ ഇട
യുണ്ടെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ കഴിഞ്ഞ ദയനീയമായ
വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കകാലത്തു അന്യരുടെ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽപാർത്തുവന്നിരുന്നവ
രും സ്വന്തഭൂമികളില്ലാത്തവരുമായ അധഃകൃതർ കുടിപാർക്കുന്നതിനു ഇടമു
ണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനായി പല സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലും അവഞ്ഞു നടന്നിട്ടുള്ളതു് പല
ർക്കും നേരിട്ടു ഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നതിനു കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതാണല്ലോ. അന്യരുടെ
സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ താമസിച്ചു കൂലിവേലകൊണ്ടു കാലയാപനം ചെയ്തു വരുന്ന
അന്യരുടെ സ്ഥലത്തു അവരുണ്ടാക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള വീടുകളും നശിച്ചു പോയ
തു നിമിത്തം അവർ താമസിച്ചു വന്നിരുന്ന ഭൂമി ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാർ വീണ്ടും
അവർക്കു താമസിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള സൌകര്യം കൊടുക്കാതെയുമായി. ത
ന്നിമിത്തം അവർനുഭവിക്കുന്ന സങ്കടങ്ങളും അവർണ്ണനീയങ്ങളത്രേ. പ
ട്ടണങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു പറയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കം നിമി
ത്തം കുന്നുകഴിയിൽ ഉണ്ടുകൂട്ടിലും, പട്ടണത്തും അധഃകൃതർ താമസിച്ചു വ
രികയും, റവന്യൂഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരും മറ്റു ഗവണ്മെൻറധികൃതരും ഇവരെ
നിർദ്ദാക്ഷിണ്യം അവിടങ്ങളിൽനിന്നു ഇറക്കി വിടുവാൻ ശ്രമിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള
തായും അറിയുന്നു. മൈസൂർ, മദ്രാസ്സ് മുതലായ രാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ അധഃ
കൃതരുടെ താമസസൌകര്യത്തിനു വേണ്ട ഭൂമി സർക്കാരിൽ നിന്നും പൊ
ന്നും വില കൊടുത്തു വാങ്ങി അവർക്കു കൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. സുസ്ഥിരമല്ല

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[Mr. T. T. Kesavan Sastri.]

കോമളയായ നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തു അനേകായിരം ഏക്കർ ഭൂമി ഉപയോഗശൂന്യമായി കിടക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നുള്ള വിവരം പരസ്യമായ ഒരു രഹസ്യമാണ്. എന്നാൽ ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള ഭൂമികൾ ആളുകൾ ധാരാളം കുടിപാർപ്പില്ലാത്ത ഇടങ്ങളിലാണ്. അവിടം അധഃകൃതർക്കു പതിച്ചു കൊടുത്താൽ അവരുടെ ആഹാരാദികൾക്കു വിഷമം നേരിടാവുന്നതാണ്. ആകയാൽ ഇതിലും ഗവണ്മെൻറിലെ ശ്രദ്ധപ്രത്യേകമുണ്ടാകേണ്ടതാണ്. മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലെ പ്രജാസഞ്ചയത്തിൽ കേവലം പിന്നോക്കം നില്ക്കുന്നവരും ഏഴകളുമായ അധഃകൃതർക്കു ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നു ഉണ്ടായിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന എല്ലാ സഹായങ്ങളെയും മനുഷ്യസഹജമായ സംതൃപ്തിയോടും കൃതജ്ഞതയോടും കൂടി ഇവരോർക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അതിനാൽ കാരുണ്യമേറിയ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നു മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലെ കല്പനയെ ലാക്കാക്കി ഭൂമിപതിപ്പു വിഷയത്തിലും തുടർച്ചയായ സഹായങ്ങൾ അധഃകൃതർക്കു ചെയ്യണമെന്നു പ്രസ്താവിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Sir, in speaking a few words on the motion, I wish to draw the attention of Government about the policy of distributing *puduval* lands to the depressed classes. When land has been set apart for registry in the names of depressed classes, as I understand, the method adopted usually by Government is to entrust it to a missionary organisation. That is to say missionary institutions have been enabled to go and approach the authorities concerned and take charge of the land set apart for distribution. When the Salvation Army is given this duty of distributing the land, naturally they will look to their own congregation and the land is distributed to their people. Of course, when it is given in charge of the Lutheran Mission, they give it to people belonging to their congregation. The same method is taken by the L. M. S. also. Hindu depressed classes are totally ignored when distribution is given to the charge of the Missionary Institutions. As such, in the matter of distributing such areas to the depressed classes, I would request that at least the Division Peishkar should take interest in the matter and see that a fair and reasonable distribution is made to the Hindu depressed classes also.

I find that in the case of lands distributed to the depressed classes and where they cultivate paddy a report is called for from the local Proverthicar by the authorities concerned and the people who cultivate the land immediately are asked to pay tax which they may not be able to pay at the first instance. In such cases it behoves the Government to see that taxes are not realised immediately but only in the course of about 6 years since they have begun cultivation. The depressed class people should be given time to realise the benefit of their cultivation before they are taxed. With these words, I support the motion.

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MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): സർ, ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെസംബന്ധിച്ചു രണ്ടുവാക്കു പറയണമെന്നു ഞാനും വിചാരിക്കുന്നു. ചെങ്ങന്നൂർ റെയിൽ പബ്ളിക്കു ആഫീസുകളുടെ ഏറ്റവും അടുത്തായി "പുലിക്കുന്നുപാറ" അല്ലെങ്കിൽ "പുലയക്കുന്നുപാറ" എന്നു കുറെ പുരാവൽസ്ഥലമുണ്ടു് അവിടെ സാധുക്കളായ പുലയർ ധാരാളം താമസിച്ചുവരുന്നു. അതു അവർക്കു പതിച്ചുകിട്ടുന്നതിനായി ഏറിയോരുകാലമായി വേണ്ട ശ്രമങ്ങൾ ചെയ്തുവരുന്നുവെങ്കിലും അതു ഇതേവരെയും സാധിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ഇതിലേക്കനുകൂലമായ തീരുമാനങ്ങളുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നാണു് ജനങ്ങളുടെ അറിവു്. പുലയർ ഇവിടെ ധാരാളം താമസിക്കുന്നതിനുപുറമെ അവരുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിനായി ഒരു സ്കൂളും അവിടെയുണ്ടു്. റെയിൻറെ മദ്ധ്യഭാഗത്തായി ഈ സ്ഥലം സ്ഥിതിചെയ്യുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. അതവർക്കു പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്നപക്ഷം അവരുടെ ഉൽക്കർഷത്തിനു കാരണമാകും. ഈ സംഗതി പറയുന്നതിനാണു് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിച്ചതു്.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The department and Government have always been sympathetic towards the depressed classes. They are doing all they could.

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): മലയാളത്തിൽ സംസാരിച്ചാൽ കൊള്ളാം,

PRESIDENT: Mr. Joseph knows English quite well. You may speak a little louder.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Government are doing all they could to help the depressed classes. It may be that the orders of Government are not sometimes very strictly carried out or it may be that the lower subordinates sometimes commit irregularities in carrying out the orders. But the attitude of Government has always been one of sympathy to the depressed classes. Government have ear-marked something like 15,600 acres of land to be registered in favour of the depressed classes; and so far they have registered about 3,500 acres out of the ear-marked area and nearly 3,000 acres which have not been ear-marked. So that in all, about 6,500 acres have been assigned to depressed classes. Government have registered these lands on concessional terms. They have been exempted from payment of *thiravila* and survey charges. On the applications for registry, they need not affix court fee stamps. These concessions have been granted to the depressed classes in order to help them. But Government have also stipulated that the lands given to the depressed classes must remain with them. They should not go and alienate them to other classes, and Government have therefore laid down that if at any time the depressed classes alienate land to

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[Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.]

any one other than the depressed classes the land will be resumed by Government. In 1107 there were about 27 such cases covering an area of about 38 acres. Government have to resume these lands because the depressed classes had alienated them. In the course of my tour I have come across several instances of lands alienated by the depressed class people. When alienations come to the notice of the Revenue authorities, action is taken to resume such lands. I have also found in the course of my tours that there are alienations which do not come to the notice of the Revenue authorities because they are not made by registered documents. Depressed class people give lands on lease or *pattom*. The Revenue authorities have no chance of knowing them. The lease may be continued year after year for a number of years so that the benefit which the Government wanted the depressed class people to get really goes to other people because the depressed classes part with their lands for the sake of a few rupees.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Does this concession extend to ear-marked areas?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Then why should Government ear-mark any area at all?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That I believe was done at the suggestion of the representatives of the depressed classes in the Legislative Council and the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, that wherever possible lands available should be reserved for registration to the depressed classes. It does not mean that Government do not register lands not included in the ear-marked area to the depressed classes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Are not Government excluding other people from getting lands by giving lands to the depressed classes out of the ear-marked area as well as those from outside?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes, that is because Government want to show special concession to the landless depressed classes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Does not the member think that the appointment of a Protector of Depressed Classes has improved matters?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It is too early to say so. I think he has taken charge of the work only some months back.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): According to the member, what is the approximate extent of land in the State that can safely be thrown open for registry?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): There are about 550,000 acres of *tharisu* lands.

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I cannot say whether all these lands are really useful for cultivation or as house-sites, or whether all of them can be registered. My point, Sir, is that Government have been sympathetic to the depressed classes and that they are doing all they could to help them. It may be that, as Mr. John Joseph said, the extent of lands so far registered is very small when compared with the requirements of the people. He suggested that each member should be given at least three acres of land. I do not know whether it is possible for Government to give all members of the depressed class three acres of land each. The population of the depressed classes is so large, that it may not be possible to give them even a few cents each. But Government are doing all they could and I can assure the members on the other side of the House that I will do my best to see that all legitimate demands of the depressed classes in regard to lands are met. I must say that some of the subordinates of the Department may sometimes commit irregularities. But whenever such irregularities come to the notice of the higher officers, they are rectified. I can give one or two such instances. Recently I had occasion to visit a few villages in South Travancore and there I found that some Sambavars wanted some lands to be registered in their names for house-sites. The local Tahsildar refused registry because of the objection raised by some of the high class people living in the neighbourhood. I found no objection to the registry, and have therefore recommended registry. Then again some other Sambavars encroached upon a tank bed a few years ago and converted it into house sites. Orders were passed for their eviction. I found on inspection that eviction would be a real hardship to the occupants, and therefore decided that the lands encroached upon should be registered to them. These are only instances to show that, though irregularities may be committed by the subordinates, they are rectified when they come to the notice of higher authorities. As far as possible, the depressed classes are given lands wherever lands are available. But I may say that it is not always possible to give them the lands they want. For example, they may apply for road *porambokes*. Our roads are narrow and we may require the *porambokes* for the widening and improvement of the roads. In regard to such encroachments, the matter will be referred to the P. W. Department, and if they object the registry is refused.

Mr. Kesavan Sastri referred to the depressed classes rendered homeless on account of floods in Trivandrum, who have put up sheds on the Barton Hill and who are now being evicted from there. I do not think that action has been taken to evict them. Government have under their occupation some lands in Trivandrum, but they want them for the present as well as for the future requirements. On the Barton Hill is situated the Bacteriological Laboratory. We do not know what all the requirements of the Public Health Department will be in future.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnathur cum Pattanapuram*): May I now how many acres there are?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not know.

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[Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.]

It may be a pretty large area. In the course of the general discussion on the subject some members stated that portions of the premises of the Commanding Officer's Bungalow and the Cotton Hill might be assigned to the depressed classes. These sites may be required for Government purposes in the future.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (*Nominated*): ബാർട്ടൺഹില്ലിൽ ഗവ ണ്മെൻറിനാവശ്യമുള്ള സ്ഥലം ഒഴിച്ചു ബാക്കി സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ അങ്ങിനെ പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കരുതോ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ആവശ്യംമാത്രം നോക്കിയാൽപോരാ. മേലാലുള്ള ആവശ്യംകൂടി നോക്കണം. അധികൃതരുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിന സ്ഥലം വേണമെന്നല്ലാതെ ബാർട്ടൺഹില്ലിൽതന്നെ വേണമെന്നുണ്ടോ?

The Trivandrum Tahsildar has reported that in consultation with the Chief Engineer he has selected some lands to the north-east of the Chakkai Railway Station which may be made available to these people. He has also reported that some lands to the east of the Puthenthodu may be assigned to them.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): How will the lands in Chakkai be useful to these people who have to work in Vellayambalam and other places two or three miles away?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It is not possible to find lands near their work-spot. The lands may be situated a few furlongs away.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): Is it a few furlongs?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): To show real sympathy and not lip sympathy, why not Government acquire some land and give them?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not know whether, during the present financial difficulties, Government can afford to acquire lands for the purpose.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): It is not a question of whether Government can afford to do that.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Government are doing what they could.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): May I know the circumference of the Barton Hill bungalow?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not know. I have not measured it.

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MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*) : Cannot the edge of the Barton Hill be assigned to these people ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : As I said, the Barton Hill and a few other places which are now in the occupation of Government have to be reserved for the future requirements of Government. It is not a wise policy to assign them away now and acquire them later on at heavy cost. Lands are available near Chakkai and Puthenthodu and they may be assigned to these people.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : Is the member aware that there are members of other classes who are as landless and as poor as the depressed classes ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Yes, there are.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : Are the Government prepared to extend such concessions to them also ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : There is a provision in the Puduval Rules to extend such concessions to the really poor of other classes also.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : What is the reason for the pendency of these applications ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : I cannot say now.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Is there any restriction that these should not be delayed unnecessarily ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Yes, certainly.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know whether the period of pendency is being ascertained ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Yes. The period of pendency of Puduval applications is being looked into and sometimes Tahsildars are punished for the inordinate delay in the disposal of applications.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Has the Land Revenue Commissioner any idea of the average period of pendency of such applications ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : No.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I say that in the Devicolam Division there was only one application and that was not disposed of in 1107 ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : It might be because land was not available for registry.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Then could not the application be rejected ?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): In this particular case, I shall find out what the cause is.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): Are any returns of the pendency of applications for registry being looked into and examined periodically by the Land Revenue Commissioner?

Are there monthly or annual returns?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I have not seen any return after I have taken charge of the department.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): What is the policy of Government in giving these lands? Government say that wherever they deem fit they will assign lands to the depressed classes. Do the Government look to the comforts and conveniences of the depressed classes? Do the depressed classes have a legitimate right of having their grievances heard?

RAO SAHIB DR. N KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Where lands are available Government are willing to assign them to the depressed classes.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know who decides the whole thing? May I know whether it is left entirely to the discretion of the Government or whether the representatives of the people have a voice in saying that these lands are or not convenient to these people?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): If there is no objection to the registry of the lands applied for, they will be registered.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): I wish to know whether, under normal circumstances, the objection depends entirely with the Government.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): If a concrete instance is given, I will be able to answer this question.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Take this Barton Hill. Of course, the whole site is not necessary to Government.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Government have to reserve it for future contingencies.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Who will decide whether these lands are necessary for future?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): In cases where Government have reserved certain lands for their own use, they must decide whether they require these lands or not.

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Mr. Sivatanu Pillai said that Missionary organisations are being specially favoured and that lands are being given to Missionary organisations for distribution to their own followers ?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : May I know whether in any instance, Government have handed over lands like that ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : There might be instances.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : May I know whether Government are aware that even in such distribution certain remuneration is being obtained even from men of their own sect ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : If for example the Salvation Army is willing to take up some lands and distribute them among their own men, I do not see why it should not be allowed to be done. If the depressed classes have the backing of an organised Association, Government will be justified in distributing lands through such associations. It is not fair to say that no land will be given to any Missionary organisation if such organisation comes forward to take land and distribute it among the depressed classes.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Are the Government assured of the fact that, in such distribution, money is not demanded of those people ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : If there are such instances, Government will look into them.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Will the Government be pleased to entrust such functions to other Associations as well ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Certainly, if they come forward to undertake the responsibility.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*) : May I know whether these Missionary bodies are able to prevent alienation by individuals ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : The rules regarding alienation apply to these lands also.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*) : What is the nature of the proprietory interest that is conferred upon these people ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) They have all the proprietory rights except that they cannot alienate the lands.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*) : Is such a condition recognised by law ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : That condition is inserted in the Puduval Rules which, I think, have been made under a Statute.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : Do the Government supervise the distribution of lands by these Associations or is that entirely left to the discretion of these Associations ?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Government trust that when an Association like the L. M. S. or the Salvation Army is allowed to distribute the lands they will do it properly. If any wrong has been done and if it is brought to the notice of Government, the matter will be looked into. Until it is proved to the contrary, Government presume that the distribution has been made fairly.

The Tahsildars have told me that some of the depressed class people to whom lands have been granted cannot be found and that tax could not be collected. I will mention one instance. In the Vilappil *pakuthi* in Neyyattinkara, the tax on the lands granted to the depressed classes has not yet been collected because the assignees could not be found and even if they were found they would not pay the tax. In such cases, the lands have to be sold for collecting the arrears of tax In regard to the lands at Vilappil, I have written to the Protector of Depressed Classes to arrange for the payment of the tax, as otherwise the lands will have to be sold.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): Do the Government know that these lands are not quite useful for cultivation to the depressed classes?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not know.

Lands useful for cultivation at the disposal of Government are limited in extent. Government can only register lands which are available.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): May I know whether when Government consider the question of giving lands to the depressed classes, they will consider that it is advisable to permit the Protector of Depressed Classes to distribute such lands?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not think the Protector by himself will be able to register lands throughout the State. But he can certainly give advice to the Tahsildars. I think he has asked for lists of lands available for registry and the lists are being sent to him. Those lands which are useless for cultivation will be excluded and the rest registered.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): What I say is that, instead of entrusting the business to the Missionary organisations, it may be entrusted to the Protector.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not know why the organisations should be denied that concession. As long as the Government are convinced that the lands assigned will go to the depressed classes, there is nothing wrong in distributing the lands through such organisations

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) May I know whether Government are aware that lands are being registered in the names of foreigners?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Special sanction of Government will have to be obtained to register lands in the names of foreigners.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): In view of the fact that there is not sufficient land for registry to the sons of the soil, is it not proper to restrict altogether the registry of lands to foreigners?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It is not a common practice now. Only in very rare instances it is done. The registry of land for tea cultivation in the High Ranges has been stopped as a result of the Tea Restriction Scheme.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the Government have any objection in registering grazing grounds, occupied and improved by the depressed classes, in favour of the depressed classes?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I think my friend has sent in a cut motion on that subject; and I shall explain the position fully then. I may tell him, however, that there have been repeated representations, both in the Legislative Council and in the Popular Assembly, that Government must, if necessary, even acquire lands in some places and reserve them as grazing grounds. Therefore, I cannot give a general answer to my friend's question now. Anyhow, I may assure him that if, in individual cases, it is found that some lands reserved for cattle grazing have been improved and cultivated, the question of the registry of such lands will be considered.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I ask whether, in the absence of any cattle to graze, there is any use in reserving lands for grazing purposes?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not think that there is any part of Travancore where you do not have cattle.

Anyhow, as I said, individual cases will be considered on their merits.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): ഡിപ്രസ്ഡ് ക്ലാസ് എന്നതിന്റെ വിവരണത്തിൽ ജാതീയമായവല്ല വ്യവസ്ഥയുണ്ടോ? അതൊ സാമ്പത്തികമായി താണനിലയിലിരിക്കുന്നവർ എന്നർത്ഥമെയെടുക്കാം?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): ഡിപ്രസ്ഡ് ക്ലാസ്എന്ന സാധാരണയായിധരിച്ചുവരുന്ന ഒരുകൂട്ടംആളുകളുണ്ട്. അവർക്കും മറ്റുജാതിയിൽപെട്ട പാവങ്ങൾക്കും ചിലസൗജന്യങ്ങൾ നൽകിവരുന്നുണ്ട്

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): താഴ്ന്നജാതിക്കാർ എന്നുപറയുന്നതു സാമ്പത്തികനിലയിൽ താഴ്ന്നവരാണോ?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : അല്ല. സാമുദായികമായി ചില തടസ്ഥങ്ങളുള്ളവർ, അതായതു് അമ്പലത്തിലും മറ്റും കയറാൻപാടില്ല എന്നൊക്കെ ചില തടസ്ഥങ്ങളുള്ളവരെയാണു് സാധാരണ "depressed classes" ആയി വ്യവഹരിച്ചുവരുന്നതു്.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : May I know whether all the communities who are denied admission to temples are classified as 'depressed classes'?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : That is the census definition, more or less.

PRESIDENT : That question need not be discussed now.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : There is one more point, Sir, Mr. Velayudhan Pillai referred to the registry of Pulikkunnupara and complained that that has been pending long. I will look into the question ; and if I find that the land can be registered, it will be done.

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): സർ, അധഃകൃതർക്കു ഭൂമി പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കാനായി ഈ സംസ്ഥാനം ഒട്ടുക്കു ഏന്നു, ൦ ൦ ൦ ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലം ഒഴിച്ചിട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നും അതിൽ ഉദ്ദേശം ന്നു, ൦ ൦ ൦ ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലം ഇപ്പോൾതന്നെ പതിച്ചുകൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നും ഗവണ്മെൻറുദ്യോഗത്തനിന്നു മറുപടിപറയുകയുണ്ടായി. തിരിച്ചിട്ടിട്ടുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ മുഴുവനും കൃഷിക്കുപയുക്തങ്ങളായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളാണോ എന്നു പരിശോധിക്കുവാൻ നാളതുവരെ കമ്മീഷണർക്കും പേഷ്കാരന്മാർക്കും കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ലെന്നു പറയേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. കൃഷിക്കുപയുക്തമായ സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്നവിഷയത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു മുമ്പാകെ ശുശ്രൂപതിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നു് വീണ്ടും അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

ക്രൂരമായ വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കമുണ്ടാകുന്ന സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ കിടക്കുന്നവരെപ്പറ്റി പറയുന്നതിനു ഞാൻ വിട്ടുപോയി. കുട്ടനാടു മുതലായസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ താമസിക്കുന്ന അധഃകൃതർ അനുഭവിച്ചുവരുന്ന കഷ്ടതകൾ ഒട്ടും ചില്ലറയല്ല. കുട്ടനാട്ടിൽ താമസിക്കുന്ന അധഃകൃതരെ സഹായിക്കുന്നതിനായി കഴിഞ്ഞ കൌൺസിലിൽതന്നെ ഗവണ്മെൻറു വളരെ പദ്ധതികൾ നിശ്ചയിച്ചിരുന്നുവെങ്കിലും അതു ഇതുവരെ നടപ്പിൽവന്നിട്ടില്ല. അതായതു അവിടവിടെയായി സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ നികത്തി വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നകാലങ്ങളിൽ അധഃകൃതർക്കു കുടിൽകെട്ടി താമസിക്കുന്നതിനു സൌകര്യമുണ്ടാകത്തക്കവിധത്തിൽ കൊടുക്കാമെന്നായിരുന്നു ആ പദ്ധതി. ൯൯-ലെ വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കംമുതൽ ഈ സംഗതി ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻറെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും ഇതുവരെ അതിനൊരു

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നിവാരണമാർഗ്ഗം ഗവണ്മെൻറുണ്ടാക്കിയിട്ടില്ല. അതിനാൽ കുട്ടനാടൻ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ താമസിക്കുന്നവർക്കു ഭൂമി പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്നവിഷയത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു കൂടുതൽ ശ്രദ്ധ പതിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ഉൽബോധിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

റോഡു പുറമ്പോക്കിൽ ഒരുത്തൻ കിടക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ അതു പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കാൻ എൻജിനീയർ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകാർ അനുവദിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നു ലാൻറുറവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണർ പറയുകയുണ്ടായി. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളും പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നു അധഃകൃതരും ശാഠ്യംപിടിക്കയില്ല.

ഇനിമേൽ വർദ്ധിക്കുന്ന ജനതതിയുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിനായി സ്ഥലം ഒഴിച്ചിടണമെന്നാണു് റവന്യൂക്കമ്മീഷണർ പറഞ്ഞ മറെറാരുസമാധാനം. ഇപ്പോൾതന്നെ ജനതതി വർദ്ധിച്ചുവന്നിരിക്കുന്നസ്ഥിതിക്കു അവക്കുകൊടുക്കാതെ ഇനി ആർക്കുകൊടുക്കാനാണു് ഇതു വച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്? അതിനാൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഈ സമാധാനംപറയുന്നതു ഒട്ടുംശരിയല്ല.

ഈ ഔണിൽ പട്ടം, ബാർട്ടൺഹിൽ മുതലായസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ താമസിക്കുന്നയാളുകളെ ദയനീയമാംവണ്ണം ഇറക്കിവിടുകയാണു് ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നു സൌജന്യമായി ഇവർക്കു കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളതുമുതലായവ കണ്ടുകെട്ടുകകൂടി ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടു്. അവർക്കു പ്രത്യേകം ഒരു സ്ഥാനം ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കാതെ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഇങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യുന്നതു് ഒട്ടും അഭിലഷണീയമല്ല. മറു പട്ടണാദ്ധ്യായിയിലുള്ള അധഃകൃതരുടെയും അവസ്ഥ ഇതുതന്നെയാണു്. അതിനാൽ അങ്ങിനെയുള്ളവർക്കു എങ്ങനെങ്കിലും സ്ഥലം കണ്ടുപിടിച്ചുകൊടുത്തശേഷമല്ലാതെ അവരെ ഇറക്കിവിടരുതെന്നും ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ഉൽബോധിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

അധഃകൃതക്കു പതിച്ചുകൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ള ഭൂമികളിൽനിന്നു കരം ഈടാക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നാണു് പിന്നീടു ഗവണ്മെൻറുഭാഗത്തുനിന്നു പറഞ്ഞ സമാധാനം. അതായതു സ്ഥലം പതിച്ചുകൊടുത്തശേഷം പതിച്ചുവാങ്ങിച്ചയാളിനെ അന്വേഷിച്ചാൽ കാണുന്നില്ല എന്നാണു് പറഞ്ഞതു്. അന്യരുടെ കൈവശമിരിക്കുന്ന ഭൂമികളെ അധഃകൃതക്കു പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്നിമിത്തം ഈ പതിച്ചുകിട്ടുന്നഭൂമി അവരുടെ കൈവശം വന്നുചേരുന്നില്ല. മുമ്പുള്ളതിൽ അന്യൻ അനുഭവിക്കുന്നവസ്തുവിനു അധഃകൃതർ കരംകൊടുക്കണമെന്നാണു് വന്നിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇതുകൊണ്ടാണു് ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ആളുകളും കരംകൊടുക്കാതെ മടക്കിയിട്ടുള്ളതു്. അതിനാൽ അധഃകൃതക്കായി പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്ന ഭൂമി അവരുടെ കൈവശമാക്കികൊടുക്കയും കരം യഥാവസരം പിരിച്ചുകൊള്ളുകയും ചെയ്യണം.

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[Mr. N. John Joseph.]

അധ്യക്ഷതർ ഓരോരുത്തർക്കും മൂന്നേക്കർസ്ഥലംവീതം പതിച്ചു കൊടുക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുകയില്ലെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറുഭാഗത്തുനിന്നും പറഞ്ഞു. റെയിൽ ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് ഫ്രീ സെൻറ് സ്ഥലം മാത്രമേ ചോദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളൂ. എന്നാൽ അതുംവേണ്ട, ഒരു വീടു കെട്ടാനുള്ള സ്ഥലംമാത്രമെങ്കിലും കൊടുത്താൽമതി. ഈ വക സംഗതികളെപ്പറ്റി ദയവായിചിന്തിച്ചു വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കംനിമിത്തം പട്ടണങ്ങളിൽ താമസിക്കുന്ന അധ്യക്ഷതർക്കു വന്നിട്ടുള്ള കഷ്ടനഷ്ടങ്ങളെ പരിഹരിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം അവർക്കു വേണ്ട സൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടാക്കികൊടുക്കണം. ഈ സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ അവരെ ഇപ്പോൾ താമസിക്കുന്നസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽനിന്നു നിർദ്ദയം ഇറക്കിവിടരുതു.

അധ്യക്ഷതരുടെകാര്യത്തിൽ കൂടുക്കൂടി നിഷ്ക്കർഷയായി ഗവണ്മെൻറു പ്രവൃത്തിക്കാമെന്നു പറയുന്നതുകൊണ്ടും ഇവിടെയുള്ള മറ്റു മെംബർമാരും അവരോടു അനുകമ്പയുള്ള വരായ്തുകൊണ്ടും ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം വോട്ടിനിടണമെന്നും ഞാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ പിൻവലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Motion No. 2

The following motion, being identical was not moved :—

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (*Nominated*) :

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,997 for establishment by Re. 1

Motion No. 3

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*) : Sir, I beg to make the following motion :

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,997 for establishment by Re. 1.

Sir, my object in tabling this motion is to draw the attention of the Government... .....

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : I beg to submit a point for ruling from the Chair. It is stated in the Standing orders that substantially identical motions should not be moved. Standing Order 22 states :

> " When substantially indentical motions stand in the names of two or more members, the President shall decide whose motion shall be moved, and the other motions shall thereupon be deemed to be withdrawn."

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : No doubt, that is what the Standing Order says. But, the President has to decide that point. If the mover makes the motion, the other members who have tabled identical motions must have opportunities to speak on the motion, if their identical motions are to be deemed to be withdrawn.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I merely want to have a clear ruling on the point, just to know where we are.

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MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, you may consider and give a ruling later.

PRESIDENT: I shall give the ruling later. But, for the present, Mr. N. K. Krishna Pillai's motion deals with an entirely new subject, namely, agricultural loan. So, he may go on

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): My object in tabling this motion is to draw the attention of the Government to some of the hardships and grievances of the public in the matter of the issue of agricultural loans. This is a matter which has been urged on more than one occasion on the floor of the Legislative Council and the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly; and, even before this House, during the general discussion on the Budget, some of my friends made pointed reference to it. In spite of all our representations during all these years conditions have not improved.

Sir, agricultural loans are intended for the benefit of the needy ryot; and they are to be utilised only for agricultural purposes. But, we know as a matter of fact - and it is an open secret—that there have also been cases of agricultural loans being actually made use of by loanees for prosecuting higher studies in England.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Does my friend make a definite statement that an agricultural loan was granted to anybody for prosecuting higher studies?

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): I did not mean to say that, with regard to the instances I had in my mind, the loans were granted on the understanding that they were to be utilised for such purposes as the prosecuting of higher studies abroad. I only said that we all know, as a matter of fact, that loans are often utilised for purposes other than those for which such loans are intended. I dare-say my friend knows too well the instances I referred to.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Is that not one reason why such people, who misuse agricultural loans, should be compelled to discharge the debt immediately?

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): Certainly.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Does the member seek to suggest such a course of action under his motion?

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): When agricultural loans are not utilised for the purpose for which they are granted, it is up to Government to take the necessary action provided for in the Agricultural Loans Regulation.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Will the member recommend the Government withholding payment of the money in such cases?

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): Certainly, Government must and will do so if they come to know of it.

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[Mr. N. K. Krishna Pillai.]

Another point to be taken into consideration is with regard to the time that is allotted for repayment of loans. According to the Rules, loans are allowed to be distributed over a period of twenty years. Sir, sufficient time is now not allowed for repayment of loans. In actual experience we see very often that much difficulty is caused to the agriculturists in the matter of repayment. If the Government will be justified in granting the maximum time allowed by law for repayment, now is the time for it when, owing to the damages consequent on the recent floods, the ryots are hard hit and their sufferings aggravated. I wish to draw the attention of Government to the immediate need of granting an extended period for repayment and in doing so they will only be acting in the spirit in which rules are framed therefor. As far as possible, the maximum time limit has to be given. In this connection, I may also observe that it will be better that Government do think of constituting Taluk Boards for the distribution of loans. Such boards should advise the Tahsildar in the matter of the distribution and terms for the repayment of loans.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Is the member aware that, in deserving cases, loans are neither got nor do the agriculturists get sufficient time for repayment?

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): I don't think so. Such Boards should have as members thereof some of the leading non-officials of the locality or taluk. This, I hope, will obviate many of the difficulties experienced by the ryots. The non-officials will be able to know better who are in absolute need of money and who not. The constitution of Boards or Committees—by whatever name you call it—if formed, would go a long way to help Government and the people in the matter of distribution and re-payment of loans.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): മി. എൻ. കെ. കൃഷ്ണപിള്ള ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻ ഹാർദ്ദമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. ക ഫ ൦ ൧-ൽ ർ, ൫ ൦, ൦ ൦ ൦ രൂപയാണ് കൃഷിവായ്പയിനത്തിൽ വിതരണംചെയ്യാനായി ഗവൺമെൻറിൽനിന്നു നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്. അതിൽ ന, വൻ, ൻ എന്ന രൂപാ മാത്രമെ ആ ആണ്ടിൽ വിതരണംചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളൂ. ഇങ്ങനെ ന്യ ൦, ൧ ൦ ൧ രൂപാ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളസംഖ്യയിൽനിന്നുതന്നേയും കൊടുക്കാതെബാക്കിവയ്ക്കുന്നതായികാണുന്നു. ഈ തുക മുഴുവനും ജനങ്ങൾക്കുപകാരപ്രദമാക്കിത്തീർക്കേണ്ടതു് ഏറ്റവും അത്യാവശ്യമാണു്. ഇന്നത്തെ റവന്യൂക്കമ്മീഷണർ എഴുതിയിട്ടുള്ള സെൻസസ്സ്റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ ൧൯൨൧ ശതമാനം ജനസംഖ്യ വർദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായികാണുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതിൽനിന്നു തന്നെ കൃഷിയെ പോഷിപ്പിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യകത നല്ലവണ്ണം തെളിയുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇതനുസരിച്

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യ കൃഷിസമ്പ്രദായങ്ങളെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനും വമ്പിച്ച കൃഷിയെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനുമായി നീക്കിവയ്ക്കുന്ന സംഖ്യ ശരിയായവിധത്തിൽ വിതരണംചെയ്യാത്തപക്ഷം അതുകൊണ്ടുദ്ദേശിക്കുന്ന ഫലം ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ലഭിക്കുകയില്ല. ൧൯൦൭-ൽ കൃഷിവായ്പക്കായുള്ള ൧൦൦ അപേക്ഷകൾ തീർച്ചചെയ്യാതെ ആണ്ടവസാനത്തിൽ ശേഷിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായി അഡ്മിനിസ്ട്രേഷൻ റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽകാണുന്നുണ്ട്. ഈ ൧൦൮ അപേക്ഷയും ന്യായമായവിധത്തിൽ തീർച്ചചെയ്തിരുന്നാൽ നിശ്ചയമായും ഈ നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ള സംഖ്യമുഴുവനും ജനങ്ങൾക്കുപയോഗയോഗ്യമായിട്ടുതീരുമായിരുന്നു. ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു വിഷമം നേരിടുന്നതു കൃഷിയെസംബന്ധിച്ചോ കൃഷിയുടെ ഉൽക്കർഷത്തെസംബന്ധിച്ചോ യാതൊരുത്തരവാദിത്വവും ചുമതലയുമില്ലാത്തലാൻറവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നു ഈ വായ്പ വിതരണംചെയ്യുന്നതുകൊണ്ടാണു്. യഥാസ്ഥത്തിൽ കൃഷിവായ്പ കൃഷ്യാവശ്യത്തിനുതന്നെ വിനിയോഗിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നു പരിശോധിക്കുന്നതിനോ കൃഷിയുടെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിയെസംബന്ധിച്ചു മേൽനോട്ടംവഹിക്കുന്നതിനോ ലാൻറവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനു ശരിയായ സൌകര്യം ഇല്ലാതിരിക്കുന്നു. അതിനാൽ കൃഷിവായ്പ വിതരണം കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നു നൽകുന്നപക്ഷം കൂടുതൽ സൌകര്യമായിരിക്കും. ഈ സംഗതി ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരണമെന്നുള്ള ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടിയാണു് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിച്ചതു്.

Mr. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Sir, I beg to offer a few remarks in support of the suggestion for the constitution of Taluk Boards for dealing with applications for agricultural loans. In spite of all that is laid down in the Rules, there is at present an absence of proper method in the distribution of loans. There are numerous applications in the taluk office, pending, and the funds granted to each taluk for a year are limited. The Tahsildars will naturally find it difficult to grant loans to all applicants with the limited funds at their disposal. The result is that several applications will be pending at the end of each year and this number swells when new applications are received in the next year. The accumulations of prior years are now kept on as pending in each taluk.

Government had constituted a Committee for the disbursement of loans in regard to *punja* lands. There were numerous applications for the grant of loans. The Committee was able to select the persons who were in absolute need of loans and the loans were granted to them. This arrangement, I think, worked well in the years 1107 and 1108.

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[Mr. T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar.]

If such a course is adopted in the distribution of agricultural loans also in each taluk, I think there will be a great advantage. Applications which could not be considered in a year may be treated as lapsed and fresh applications may be required to be made in the next year, and they alone must be considered by the Committee. If some such arrangement is adopted, I think much of the difficulty now experienced could be removed. Two non-official members might be selected to assist the Tahsildar, who may be the President of the Committee. I should think, this would improve matters largely. I therefore support Mr. N. K. Krishna Pillai's suggestion and commend it for the consideration of Government.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): The main difficulty brought forward by Mr. N. K. Krishna Pillai is that the agricultural loans should be conveniently paid back by the ryots. The main trouble is not with regard to the applications for loans but to urge the necessity of giving an extended period for the repayment of loans. These loans are granted on the understanding that the funds are to be utilised for the improvement of cultivation. The ryot takes the loan, utilises it for the cultivation of lands, and with the adequate return from the land, he is expected to pay back the loan by instalments. Now the price of commodities has gone down 50 per cent. If the Government expected the ryot to pay back the amount by instalments, certainly it is also expected that the ryot should get necessary income from his lands. Government know full well that the price of the agricultural products, such as rice and copra, have gone down. Therefore, if extension of time in the matter of repayment of loan is refused, that means, the ryot is driven to the extent of borrowing the necessary funds for the payment of instalments. That necessarily involves a higher rate of interest. Therefore, Government themselves would be defeating the very purpose for which loans are instituted. If concessions are granted and if Government continue to insist on payment by instalments, Government should take into consideration the abnormally low price of commodities. They know that a ryot is unable to pay, not even a smaller amount. Then how can he be expected to pay back a comparatively big amount at such a time of acute depression? Therefore I am quite sure that the Government would not oppose the motion.

MR. V. RAMAKRISHNA PANICKAR (*Kartikapalli II*): I also support the motion. I am in favour of the institution of Taluk Boards for the purpose of distributing agricultural loans. That can only function as an Advisory Board, because, the responsible officer for the distribution of loans is the Tahsildar or Peishkar according to the amount that is to be distributed. Even in the case of the institution of a board like that, it cannot be expected that it will be free from evils and irregularities. Of course, to some extent, the said evils could be minimised. It is quite possible that the board can be influenced by persons who apply for loans. Any way, it is good if a Board of the nature suggested by Mr. N. K. Krishna Pillai is constituted as early as possible for every taluk.

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It has been suggested here, that the distribution of loans may be entrusted to the Agricultural Department. I think it is not expedient, because it is not available in all the taluks. It is good the Tahsildar of a taluk alone is entrusted with the work of distribution of loans. It has to be admitted that the Tahsildar has multifarious duties to perform. Nevertheless, as a responsible officer, he alone will be able to know the value of the security that is to be offered for the loan.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : വ്യവസായഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റിൽനിന്നു ലോൺകൊടുക്കുന്നതു ഏതു നിലയിലാണെന്നു മെമ്പർക്കറിയാമോ?

MR. V RAMAKRISHNA PANICKAR (*Kartikapalli II*) : That does not appear to me to be relevant. What I have to say is that the constitution of a board of the nature contemplated is advisable.

PRESIDENT : Mr. Velayudhan Pillai, your question is disallowed.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : In supporting the motion before the House, I have to submit that the system of granting agricultural loans is most defective and harmful to the interest of the agriculturists in the State. Very seldom is the amount allowed for the purpose sufficient. Very seldom are the agriculturists benefited as a result of the loan. The applications that are invariably presented to the respective authorities for the grant of agricultnral loans in the case of *bona fide* agriculturists are seldom respected. On the other hand, some of the biggest officers in the State, who draw high salaries get very easily agricultural loans from the Taluk Cutcherries. That has been the custom in vogue for the last so many years and I beg to draw the attention of the Government that that system of granting agricultural loans to persons not for *bona fide* agricultural purposes should be put a stop to.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : May I know whether the member is in a position to quote any instance in which an officer of Government has secured an agricultural loan?

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Yes. I could.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : Will the member be pleased to mention it for the information of the House?

PRESIDENT : You cannot drag in personalities.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Will the lender or the borrower concede that the loan is not for agricultural purposes?

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : In the presence of applications from *bona fide* agriculturists for loans which have been pending *ad infinitum* in the Taluk Cutcherries, the officers who are applicants for agricultural loans, probably not for agricultnral purposes, used to get the loans very easily from the respective authorities. That is what I meant.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : Are there applicants for agricultural loans from among the members of the Legislative bodies?

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MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): I cannot say.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): What is the amount that can be sanctioned by a Tahsildar?

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Five hundred rupees, if I remember correctly.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know from the member what the other member asked him? (*Laughter*)

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Further a time-limit, which should be a short one, should be fixed within which the applications for loans should be disposed of, in the case of applications for agricultural loans. Also the time for the return of agricultural loans should be extended from what it usually is.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Sir, the Banking Enquiry Committee recommended that agricultural loans might be given with much greater ease than is being done, and that the difficulties arise on account of disbursement. The present allotment of Rs. 4 lakhs towards agricultural loans is much too small. From the way in which the Banking Enquiry Committee reported, it will look as if the Government has got a Golconda behind its back. But what you find from the financial statement is that there will be a Government surplus of Rs 11,300,000 at the end of the current year. But rural indebtedness comes to anything between 25 and 50 crores. What exactly is going to be done with this Rs. 4 lakhs which is but a drop in the ocean there is no knowing. One thing I would like to know is whether Government securities can be operated upon and utilised for the purpose of agricultural loans or whether there are reasons why nothing could be done with these securities. Otherwise, this sum of Rs. 4 lakhs will be a sheer waste. More should be allotted in the matter of giving agricultural loans if you want to tide over the economic situation of the country.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): This question of distribution of agricultural loans was often discussed in the Legislative Council and the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly and various defects were generally pointed out. One criticism that is generally levelled against the distribution of agricultural loans is that the agriculturists who stand in need of money do not as a rule get loans. I do not say, Sir, that the loans are always granted to only *bona fide* agriculturists who stand in need of financial help to improve their lands for cultivation. Probably there may be instances in which the loans ostensibly granted for agricultural purposes have been utilised for some other purposes. I only say that there may be such instances. The policy of Government is to give loans to *bona fide* agriculturists for the improvement of land and cultivation.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): May I know from the member whether after these loans are granted any attempt is made by the Revenue Department to see whether these loans are properly applied?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes. There are standing orders to the effect that before the loan is granted the Tahsildar must inspect the land sought to be improved and he must satisfy himself that there is necessity for improvement. Then invariably the loan is granted in two instalments. After the first instalment is disbursed the Tahsildar must again inspect the land and see whether the money has been utilised for the improvements mentioned in the application. Only then is the second instalment disbursed. And after this is done, the Tahsildar must inspect the land again. Thus there are three inspections by the Tahsildar.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): That is what the rule says. But I am asking what the practice is.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Probably all these inspections are not invariably made in all cases. But I can tell the member that as soon as I took charge of this department—I knew the difficulties and I often heard of the difficulties—the first thing I did was to issue a general circular containing strict instructions that the Tahsildars must carry out these three inspections. I found in the course of my inspection that sometimes the Tahsildars granted loans in one lump, In such cases I have instructed them that this practice must be stopped and that invariably they should grant the loans only in two instalments. They must satisfy themselves by inspection of the land that the first instalment has been utilised for the purpose for which it was given, and only then should they disburse the second instalment. As soon as I took charge of the department, I issued a circular containing these instructions, and I shall see that they are carried out.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): Has there been till now any instance in which the Tahsildar reported that the amount has not been spent for agricultural purposes?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes. I think there are instances and in such cases recovery in a lump has been ordered. Of course, objections are raised and appeals are preferred praying for extension of time. I think that the members on the other side of the House will agree that in such cases no leniency should be shown at all. Probably the officer who adopts this course may become unpopular, but in spite of such a contingency, recovery in a lump must be made in such cases and steps are being taken to that effect.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): I wish to know from the member whether his circular is in any way more effective than the old G. O.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): My intention is to see that the circular and the G. O. are followed.

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MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Was not the circular issued after the G. O.?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The directions in the G. O. were not being properly adhered to. I knew instances in which it was not done, and hence I issued a circular soon after I took charge of the department.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Is there not a similar prospect of the circular also being thrown into the waste-paper basket?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I will see that the instructions in the circular letter are carried out. More than that, I will myself inspect some of those lands for the improvement of which loans have been granted and, if, in the course of such inspections, I find that the circular letter has not been followed, the officers concerned will be taken to task.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Are there cases in which the Land Revenue Commissioner is satisfied that the Tahsildar has been neglecting to conform to the orders issued on the subject?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That is the general impression that I have formed. I have not had time to find out actual cases of remissness.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Has not the Land Revenue Commissioner gone out on inspection?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Has he come across any instances at least in which a Tahsildar has deliberately disobeyed the original G. O.?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No, not yet.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Not even one instance?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): In cases in which a Land Revenue Commissioner comes to know that there is any remissness on the part of the Tahsildar in regard to these orders, what, may I know, will be the exact nature of the punishment he is going to inflict?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It depends on each individual case.

There is a general complaint that loans are granted for purposes other than agricultural improvement or cultivation. We want to stop such vagaries. I mean to see that orders are strictly followed and hope

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to inspect the lands myself and punish the officers who are responsible for such vagaries. In the circular I have issued, I have insisted on the Tahsildars making three inspections, one before granting the loan, another after disbursing the first instalment and again after disbursing the second instalment. I have also insisted upon the loans being disbursed in two instalments. I will see that hereafter the circular letter is invariably followed.

As regard to extending the time for repayment, extension of time is being granted where of course the authorities are satisfied that the loan has been properly utilised and that owing to the inability of the borrower the money cannot be paid back within the allotted time.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know from the member whether extensions have been granted in cases where obviously the amount has not been utilised for agricultural purposes?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Not as far as I know.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know from the member whether there are cases where lump sum amounts given to persons who get loans not for *bona fide* agricultural purposes, have not returned the amounts?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): There are.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the member has instituted any enquiry in regard to these particular loans?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Vigorous action is being taken for the recovery of such loans. Properties have been attached and even sold.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Is it due to the inability of the officers concerned?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It depends upon the officers concerned.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Are steps taken to scrutinise the ability of the persons to repay by independent enquiry?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Certainly, independent enquiries are also made.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Was there any instance in which the party reported to be well able to pay back loans has failed in repayment?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): There are such instances, I think.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Was there any instance in which a party who is unable to pay has been reported to be able to pay and is it the practice that the paper asking for extensions should be disposed of only after the party is heard?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commisisoner*): Invariably the application is disposed of only after the party is heard.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Is there no inspection?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No inspection is necessary. The Tahsildar can grant the extension himself, or recommend it to higher authorities.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Suppose the Tahsildar reports that a particular ryot is able to pay; and then on receipt of that report, would the officer superior to the Tahsildar care to suffer the party to be brought to him and verify for himself the accuracy of the report?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I have not issued any instructions to that effect, but it may be done.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know from the member whether there is in existence any set of rules for granting loans?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Certainly there are rules.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): For the verification of the report by the Tahsildar?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): None.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): About the ability or otherwise of the party to pay?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No hard and fast rules can be laid down for that. It has to be left to the discretion of the Tahsildars to make independent enquiries.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know from the member whether it is incumbent upon the Tahsildars to make independent enquiries?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Invariably they do so.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Should there not be a specific application for extension of time to be filled in by the borrower praying for extension?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Is not the loan amount fixed in accordance with the yield of the property sought to be improved?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes.

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Is it the opinion of Government that the yield of the property has gone down by a very large extent ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : No.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Are the Government aware that the price of produce has gone down by 30 to 40 per cent ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : During the last three or four years, prices have fallen.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : And in view of that fact, is it not the duty of Government to see that the time for payment is extended and the instalment increased ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Does the question refer to all cases irrespective of the fact whether the loans have been utilised for the purpose for which they were taken or not ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : My question refers only to loans utilised for the purpose for which they are got. Certainly there are provisions in the Regulation enabling realisation of loans in cases where the loans have not been put to proper use.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : I do not quite agree with the member that a general extension of time should be granted in the case of all agricultural loans. There are a certain number of people who can afford to pay and who are willing to pay. But if there is any man who is unable to pay, he can make an application in the prescribed form and invariably extension of time will be granted.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : So, is it the object of Government that only those people who are able to apply to Government should be given this consideration ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Persons who have taken loans know that it is necessary. There is no end of applications coming in for extension of time.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Is it the intention of Government that, if the department is going to grant extension in all cases in which there is application, even people who are able to pay back the loan will not come and apply ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : What for ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : For extension of time.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : That is why the Tahsildar makes an enquiry. If the Tahsildar is able to satisfy himself that the party is able to pay, no extension of time will be granted.

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Am I to understand that power is given to Tahsildar to refuse extension of time?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes, he has the power to refuse extension of time in the case of loans which he can grant, namely up to Rs. 500. If the party is aggrieved, he can appeal to the Peishkar and then to the Commissioner and so on. Extension of time is invariably granted whenever it is found that the party really stands in need of extension.

Regarding the time for repayment, one member said that the maximum period allowed under the Rules is 20 years and that this period should be allowed for repayment of loans. I do not think that this can be laid down as a general rule. First of all, you must look to the purpose for which the loan has been utilised. If a loan has been granted for the cultivation of paddy or for manuring a cocoanut garden, it is possible to get the return in one or two years. If, on the other hand, the loan is intended for the reclamation of *kayal* into a cocoanut garden the return will come in only in 8 to 10 years and it is not advisable to fix a period less than 10 years in such cases. It is therefore not advisable to fix uniformly a period of 20 years for the repayment of all loans. All these facts are taken into consideration when we fix the period of repayment.

Regarding the constitution of the Taluk Boards which was suggested by some members, I have no objection to recommend to Government that the matter may be considered. But whether it will be practicable or such Boards will facilitate or reduce the delay in the granting of loans, I have my own doubts. One general complaint is that there is inordinate delay in granting loans. If you are going to introduce a new body between the Tahsildar and the applicants you are sure to lengthen the period taken for the disposal of applications. But, if it is the general opinion of the members that it will be advisable to have a body like that to advise the Tahsildar, I have no objection to recommend it to Government.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): Is it to introduce between the Tahsildar and the borrower?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not know exactly what the functions of the Boards are, whether they are to investigate the solvency of the applicants or the security offered by them or their *bona fides*.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Will the member be pleased to look into the question?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That is what I said. I will certainly consider the matter and if I find it feasible I will recommend the formation of Taluk Bords.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know from the member the average length of time taken for granting a loan?

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May I know the minimum time for granting an agricultural loan?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I cannot fix any minimum time. Sometimes elaborate enquiries have to be conducted. Delay may be caused by the fault of the applicants themselves.

As regards the appointment of Taluk Boards or committees, I have no objection to make a recommendation to the Government if the members think that these Boards or committees will be of real help.

As for entrusting the business of granting loans to the Agricultural Department, I hink there are practical difficulties in carrying it out.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): വ്യവസായഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നു വായ്പ നൽകുന്നതു ഏതു വിധത്തിലാണെന്നറിയാമോ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): വ്യവസായ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും കൊടുക്കുന്ന വായ്പ വളരെ കുറച്ചേ ഉള്ളു; അതായതു ഫ,൭൦൦൦-രൂപയോ മറ്റോ മാത്രമേ അവർ ഇതുവരെ കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളു. അതും ചില ക്ലിപ്തമായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽമാത്രം കൊടുത്താൽമതി. കൃഷിവായ്പ അങ്ങിനെയുള്ളതല്ല; രാജ്യം മുഴുക്കെ കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. വ്യവസായത്തിനും റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നാണ് നെക്കുറിച്ചിയപ്പറ്റി അപേക്ഷിച്ചു റിപ്പോർട്ടുചെയ്യുന്നതു്.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): ആ നിലയിൽതന്നെ കൃഷിവായ്പയും കൊടുക്കരുതോ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): അങ്ങിനെയായാൽ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെക്കാൾ വളരെ താമസം വേണ്ടിവരുമെന്നാണ് എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നതു്. എന്നാൽ കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനു വേണ്ട സ്റ്റാഫ് കൊടുക്കുന്നപക്ഷം ഒരുപക്ഷേ എളുപ്പം സാധിക്കുമായിരിക്കും. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നിലക്കു ആ ഏർപ്പാട് കൂടുതൽ താമസത്തിനിടവരുമെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

Then Sir, a word about the insufficiency of the allotment. Last year out of Rs. 4 lakhs Rs. 3 lakhs and odd was given out. Some money out of the allotment set apart for *punja* loans lapsed. I can assure the House that there was no lapse under the allotment provided for ordinary loans.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): I beg to submit that last year also when the same point was discussed during the budget discussion some assurance was given by the Government side that they would be more liberal in future. But things have not improved.

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Can the member give any specific instance in which the assurance has not been carried out?

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*) : I can not give them now. I shall do so afterwards if the member is very particular, Sir.

In view of the fact that Dr. Kunjan Pillai, the present Land Revenue Commissioner assures us that the matter will be given careful and due consideration and in order to give him some time, he being rather new to his office, I withdraw the motion.

PRESIDENT : Has the member leave of the House to withdraw the motion?

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The House adjourned for lunch at 1·26 P. M.

PRESIDENT : In regard to the point of order raised by Mr. Asan, Mr. Asan is undoubtedly correct according to the Standing Orders. The difficulty about that is that, if many members speak on different topics under one motion, a single issue will not emerge and the debate will become diffused. The practice here has been to allow subsequent motions, identical in wording to the motion already moved, to be discussed,—provided, of course, they deal with different subjects – until vote is taken on the first motion. I propose to allow that practice to continue. But, I am prepared to reconsider this ruling, if members will prefer the other practice, in strict accordance with the Standing Orders.

Motion No. 4.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): ലാൻറ റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ എസ്റ്റാബ്ളിഷ്മെൻറ് ഇനത്തിൽ കൊ ള്ളിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഫർ;ൻ ൈ-രൂപായിൽനിന്നു ൫ രൂപാ കുറയ്ക്കണമെന്നു ള്ളതാണ് എൻെറഉപക്ഷേപം. ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതി ൻെറ ഉദ്ദേശം റബ്ബർകൃഷിചെയ്യുവരുന്ന ഭൂമികൾക്കു ഈ ക്ഷാമകാലത്തെ അവസ്ഥകൊണ്ടു ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നു ചെയ്തുകൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ള സൌജ ന്യം എല്ലാവർക്കും ഒരുപോലെ ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ല; ആ സംഗതിയിൽ പക്ഷ പാതം കാണിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതുപോലെ ജനസാമാന്യത്തിനു തോന്നത്തക്ക വിധത്തിൽ ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നു; അതു് മനഃപൂർവംകൊണ്ടാണെന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല എന്നുള്ളുസംഗതി ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ കൊണ്ടു വരണമെന്നുള്ളതാണു്. ചേരിക്കൽ സെറ്റിൽമെൻറുകാലത്തു ചേരിക്കൽ ഭൂമിക്കു കരം നിശ്ചയിച്ചതു പണ്ടാരവകയായിരുന്നാൽ മുഴുവൻ പാട്ടവും കൊടുക്കത്തക്കവിധത്തിലും, ജന്മിവകയൊ ദേവസ്വംവകയൊ ജന്മവസ്തു ക്കളായിരുന്നാൽ മുഴുവൻ പാട്ടത്തിൻെറ പകുതിമാത്രം കൊടുക്കത്തക്ക വിധത്തിലും ആയിരുന്നു. ആ അവസ്ഥയെപ്പറ്റി എനിക്കാക്ഷേപം ഒന്നുമില്ല. പാട്ടം കൊടുത്തകാലത്തു റബ്ബർ മുതലായവ കൃഷിചെയ്തു യാണെങ്കിൽ ആ വസ്തുവിൻെറകരം കുറയ്ക്കുന്നതിനു അധികാരം ഗവണ്മെ

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ൻറിനു ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുമെന്നുണ്ടായിരുന്ന നിയമത്തെ അടിസ്ഥാനപ്പെടുത്തി റബ്ബർകൃഷിചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള ഭൂമികൾക്കു രണ്ടു രൂപാ കരംനിശ്ചയിച്ചിരുന്നതു്, റബ്ബർകൃഷികൊണ്ടു് ആദായം കിട്ടുന്നില്ല എന്നസംഗതിയെ ഗവണ്മെൻറു് സദയം പരിഗണിച്ചു ഒരു രൂപയായി കുറച്ചു. അന്യവസ്തുക്കൾക്കു രണ്ടു് രൂപാ പാട്ടംനിശ്ചയിച്ചിരുന്നതിനെ അടിസ്ഥാനമാക്കി ഒരു രൂപാ കരം ഈടാക്കിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്നു. അതിനെസംബന്ധിച്ചു യാതൊന്നുംതന്നെ പുതുതായി ആലോചിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. പണ്ടാരപ്പാട്ടം വസ്തുക്കൾക്കു ചെയ്തുകൊടുത്തിരിക്കുന്ന സൌജന്യം ദേവസ്വം വസ്തുഉടമസ്ഥന്മാർക്കും ജന്മം വസ്തുഉടമസ്ഥന്മാർക്കും ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കാതിരിക്കുന്നതിനു പ്രത്യേകം കാരണങ്ങൾ ഒന്നുംതന്നെ കാണുന്നില്ല. അവയിൽകൊണ്ട പാട്ടത്തിൻറെ പകുതി, ജന്മിക്കും പകുതി സർക്കാരിനും എന്നതു ഭേദപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടില്ല. എങ്കിലും, പശ്ചിമ ദേവസ്വം വസ്തുക്കളെ ഒരു രൂപാവച്ചു പതിച്ചുകൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതിനു പലകാരണങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടു്. സാധുക്കളായ ആളുകൾക്കു വേണ്ടി പണംവച്ചു പതിച്ചുകൊടുത്തു. അതിൽ റബ്ബർകൃഷിചെയ്തവർക്കു ഒരു കാശ്ചും ആദായമില്ലാതെ വലഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. റബ്ബറിൻറെ സ്ഥിതി നന്നായി റബ്ബർ എടുക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ചിലവുകിച്ചിലും വഹിക്കത്തക്കവിധം ആദായംകിട്ടുമെന്നുള്ള കാലംവരെ ടി ദേവസ്വം വസ്തുക്കളിലെ റബ്ബർകൃഷിക്കാർക്കും പാട്ടം പണ്ടാരവക വസ്തുക്കളുടേതെന്നപോലെ ഒരു രൂപായാക്കി വീതപ്രകാരം സർക്കാരും ദേവസ്വവും ഈടാക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. പണ്ടാരവസ്തുക്കൾക്കു കരം കുറവുചെയ്തതുപോലെ മറുവസ്തുക്കൾക്കും കരം കുറവുചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നുള്ളതിനെയാണു് ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻറെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതു്. സാധാരണ സ്റ്റോറു് ഒട്ടുക്കു കരം കുറവുചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുന്നതുപോലെയുള്ള വിഷമങ്ങൾ ഇതിൽ ഇല്ല. രണ്ടായിരത്തിൽ ചിലപ്രാനം രൂപായുടെ നഷ്ടമെവരികയുള്ളു. ഒരു മാതാവിൻറെ മക്കളെ എല്ലാവരേയും ഒരുപോലെ പരിഗണിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള തത്വമനുസരിച്ചു ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻറെ പ്രജകളെ വസ്തുക്കളുടെ ഇനംതിരിക്കുന്നതിൽ വ്യത്യസ്തപ്പെടുത്താതെ പക്ഷഭേദംകൂടാതെ ഇതിനൊരുപരിഹാരം ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യമാണെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻറെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടു ഞാൻ തല്ക്കാലം വിരമിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): മി: രാമൻപിള്ള പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോടുകൂടി ഞാൻ പൂർണ്ണമായി യോജിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെസംബന്ധിച്ചു കൂടുതലായി എന്തെങ്കിലും സംഗതി

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[Mr. N. E. Varughese.]

കഠം ഈ സഭമുമ്പാകെ കൊണ്ടുവരണമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഈ അഭിപ്രായത്തോടുകൂടി ഞാൻ പൂർണ്ണമായി യോജിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The point urged by Mr. Raman Pillai is this: In the case of Government lands registered for rubber cultivation, the tax per acre was two rupees.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഭൂമി പതിച്ചുകൊടുത്തശേഷം റബ്ബർ കൃഷിചെയ്യുന്ന ഭൂമികഠം ക്കു രണ്ടു രൂപാ കരം നിശ്ചയിക്കയാണോ ചെയ്തത്?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Government land in which rubber has been cultivated was taxed at two rupees per acre; and recently, on account of the economic depression, Government reduced this tax to one rupee per acre. What Mr. Raman Pillai says is that, in the case of *cherical* lands, belonging to Jenmies and Devaswoms, also the tax is two rupees per acre of which one rupee goes to the Jenmi and the other to Government and that reduction of tax granted for Government lands should be extended to Jenmom and Devaswom lands, so that the tax due to Government from these latter should be reduced to half a rupee.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): In the case of Government land on which rubber is cultivated, the tax has been reduced from two rupees to one rupee. So, in the case of Jenmom and Devaswom lands, on which rubber is cultivated, also, the tax must, in fairness, be reduced by fifty per cent. so that the Government dues will come down to only half-a-rupee, and.....

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): As I understand the member, Sir, he wants the Government's share of the tax on Jenmom and Devaswom lands on which rubber is cultivated to be reduced by fifty per cent. I do not think that he wants the Jenmi's or the Devaswom's share also to be reduced.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): Sir, my point is this. In the case of Jenmom lands.....

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): On a point of order, Sir. Can the member speak in English?

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): Sir, it is to enable the President to follow me in this important point that I now speak in English. If my friend would insist, I shall speak in English hereafter, (*Laughter.*) though very faulty it may be.

PRESIDENT: Do you propose to speak in English in future, Mr. Raman Pillai?

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): Yes, Sir.

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The *cherical* lands were assessed with a certain amount of *pattom*. While in the case of *pandarapattom* lands, the full assessment was considered as tax due to Government, in the case of lands belonging to Jenmies and Devaswoms, half of the assessment was ordered to be paid to the Jenmi or to the Devaswom, the other half alone being paid to Government. On account of the fall in the price of rubber, the assessment on *pandarapattom* rubber lands was reduced from two rupees to one rupee. My suggestion is that, in fairness, the assessment on Jenmom and Devaswom *cherical* rubber lands should also be reduced from two rupees per acre to one rupee, so that the Government will get half a rupee and the Jenmi or the Devaswom the other half.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That was exactly how I understood him also, and I was going to explain it.

Sir, this is a matter which has not been brought to the notice of Government till now. I think there is some force in the member's request. Government will consider the question carefully.

MR. T. S. JAYANTAN NAMBOOTIRI (*Travancore Jenmies, North*): സെറിൽമെൻറുകാലത്തുള്ള പാട്ടമിച്ചം.....

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): കേൾക്കാൻ പാടില്ല.

MR. T. S. JAYANTAN NAMBOOTIRI (*Travancore Jenmies, North*): പാട്ടമിച്ചം ഗവണ്മെൻറിന് കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു നാക്കി ബാക്കി ജന്മിക്കു് കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു മി: രാമൻപിള്ള അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടു. പാട്ടമിച്ചത്തിൽ പണയാധാരത്തിന്റെ പലിശ കഴിച്ചു ബാക്കിയെ ജന്മിക്കുകൊടുക്കാൻ പാടുള്ളു എന്നു് ഫാൾവു-ൽ ഒരു ഭേദഗതി ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതനുസരിച്ചു് വേണം കൊടുക്കുവാൻ.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I did not hear, what Mr. Jayantan Nambootiripad said. I think he was correcting Mr. Raman Pillai's statement.

As I have already stated, Sir, the question will be considered, now that it has been brought to the notice of Government.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): In view of the assurance given by the Land Revenue Commissioner that the matter will be carefully considered, I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn,

Motion 5.

PRESIDENT: Do you wish to press a fresh point in your next motion, Mr. Raman Pillai?

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): Yes, Sir. I beg to move the following motion:

5. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,997 for establishment by Rs. 25,*

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[Mr. R. Raman Pillai.]

In sending up this motion, my idea was to bring to the notice of Government that the coercive steps for recovering land revenue should be stayed at least for six months, that is, till the end of Dhanu 1109. My reason is that the ryots are groaning under the economic depression and they are unable to pay the tax. Government and the member in charge of the Department may ask whether the people will be able to pay double the amount next year, namely, this year's and next year's taxes together. But the poor people think that they will somehow or other get over the difficulty. If not they will suffer the consequence, and not the member in charge of the department or the Government.

Another matter I wish to refer to is about the cardamom ryots. They are now suffering on account of the reduction of produce and the unhappy going down of the prices in the middle of this year. Several of the cardamom ryots have written to me to bring to the notice of the Government the fact that after taking the Kanni crop and selling it they may be able to pay up the arrears within the next year. The estates of the poor cardamom ryots are being notified for auction sales. That also may be stayed for a few months. They may be able to pay up the tax by the end of Vrischikam next year. Government will, I hope, consider the matter and stay the coercive steps that are now being taken. With these few words, I beg to resume my seat.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, Mr. Raman Pillai wants the coercive steps taken against the collection of taxes being postponed to the end of Dhanu 1109. Last year a similar motion was made in the Legislative Council and carried, and it was given effect to. I do not know, Sir, whether it is really advisable to stay the collection of tax generally. A mere suspension is really in the long run a source of great hardship and trouble both to the people and the Government. That is what we have experienced this year. The coercive steps were stopped till the end of Vrischigam or so this year. Out of a balance of 7 and odd lakhs of rupees at the end of 1107, we have been able to collect only about 5 lakhs. And there is still 2 and odd lakhs to be collected. The people, as Mr. Raman Pillai correctly anticipated, find it difficult to pay the tax for one year, and so they will find it more difficult to pay the tax for two years together. So I do not know really whether it is wise to stay the collection of tax. I do not know whether the member wants a general stay throughout the year or only a stay in particular cases. I may say that wherever suspension was found to be absolutely necessary, Government have already granted suspension. They have already issued orders suspending the collection of tax on *punja* lands and *kayal* lands in Kuttanad.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery cum Peermade II*): Does the member know that cocoanut and other things are going down in price?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes, I do not deny that.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): Does the member think that the *punja* cultivators are the only people affected by the depression?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No. We granted this concession to the *punja* cultivators because the yield of their last crop was very much poorer than that in ordinary years, and so they put in a petition for suspension of collection which Government have sanctioned. A report has been called for from the Peishkars as to whether it is necessary to give them further relief. The report has not yet been received. It was because the Government were convinced of the very low yield from *kayal* and *punja* lands this year they thought it proper to give some relief to *punja* and *kayal* cultivators.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): When were the orders issued?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): In regard to the lands in Kuttanad, the orders were issued a month or two ago, and in regard to the *punja* lands in other places, orders will be issued today. This will include Kandukrishi lands also. Where Government were really convinced of the necessity for stay, it has been granted. I doubt whether it is wise to give a general stay.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): Does the member think that each and every one of the defaulters should come and apply to the Land Revenue Commissioner for stay?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No, I do not say so.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): Does not the member know that Proverthicars are punished by the Tahsildars, the Tahsildars by the Peishkars and the Peishkars by Government for the non-realisation of the taxes?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *PeermadeII*): Is the member prepared to assure me that the Tahsildars will take the necessary steps to stay coercive steps in case they are informed of the inability of the ryots to pay the taxes?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The Tahsildars have no power of suspending coercive action, Government alone have that power.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): That is why I ask whether they should go to Government for asking a remission. Does the member think that a person who is in water till the

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[Mr. R. Raman Pillai.]

neck and who will die tomorrow should die today? Is it necessary that he should die today or can he live till tomorrow?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): We tried suspension of coercive action last year, but it cannot be said to have been a success. It will be more difficult to collect the arrears of this year if collection is postponed till next year.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): Why should I die today? Why not I die tomorrow?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Let us hope things will improve next year. Government have given a remission of 25 per cent. of tax on the last Kumbhom crop in Nanjinad. The question of granting remission in the case of flood-affected areas will be considered after receiving the reports from Peishkars.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know whether the question of general remission will not be considered for Kuttanad?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I cannot say whether a general remission throughout the State will be granted. But each case will be considered on its merits. As far as I know, in no other State or Province has a general remission been granted.

MR PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know whether he is in favour of stopping the tax?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): We have not tried the experiment, and I am not in favour of starting it here.

Let me finish my argument.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): I do not think Mr. Raman Pillai referred to the question of remission. It was only a question of staying coercive processes.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Some other members spoke on that question.

In regard to *kayal* and *punja* lands, stay of coercive action has been granted. It is not advisable in the interest of cultivators themselves to give a general stay throughout the State as mentioned by Mr. Raman Pillai.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): I am not at all satisfied with the opinion expressed by the learned Land Revenue Commissioner. He said that I should die to-day. I am not willing to die today. I wish to die tomorrow if possible. (*Laughter.*) So, I leave this matter to the Assembly and I press the motion, whatever be the result.

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PRESIDENT : Mr. Raman Pillai presses his motion to reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,997 for establishment by Rs. 25. It is the practice in token motions to reduce by Re. 1, Rs. 10 or Rs. 100. With Mr. Raman Pillai's approval, we will bring the reduction by Rs. 10.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*) : It does not matter.

PRESIDENT : The issue before the House is with regard to the suspension of the coercive processes.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*) : I am referring to suspension of tax till the end of Dhanu next Malabar year.

PRESIDENT : The motion is for the suspension of the tax.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*) : Only coercive steps for movables and immovables should be suspended.

PRESIDENT : The motion is that coercive steps should be suspended till the end of Dhanu 1109. Is that clear to the House?

The motion was put and carried.

Motions Nos. 6 and 7

PRESIDENT : The subject of the next motion, No. 6, has already been discussed. So it cannot be moved now. The subject of the next motion, No. 7, is not relevant under 'allowances.'

The following motions were not moved:—

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI :

8. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,400 for travelling allowance by Re. 1

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI :

9. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,400 for travelling allowance by Rs. 5

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN :

10. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 20,976 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI :

11. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 20,976 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI :

12. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 20,976 for Land Revenue and Incomr Tax Commissioner by Rs. 1

Motion No. 13.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : I beg to make the following motion.

"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 20,976 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1".

The object of the motion is to discuss the general policy of the department with special reference to the necessity of giving substantial relief to the ryots by remitting taxes in view of the damage caused to

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[Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

crops in general. I wish to specify the object of this motion more definitely before I seek to enter into the subject proper. I wish to make clear that, on account of the economic depression which has been in existence for some time and which has been aggravated by the recent floods and excessive rains and damage caused consequent to that, a general reduction of land tax should be given to the ryots. I fully agree with the view put forward by the Revenue Commissioner that no substantial relief can be given to the ryot by postponing the period of payment. In a way it increases the burden. I need not stress on this point very much to convince the House that the ryots in Travancore are passing through a more acute period of depression than the period through which they were passing. It is admitted by all that their agricultural products get no value in the market. More than that, there is heavy damage caused to the crops in general. On the top of all this, many fields have been submerged and people have to invest substantial capital to make large areas of fields again cultivable. Under these circumstances, it may not be out of place to suggest for a reasonable reduction of 25 per cent. of land tax. I am aware of the fact that the land tax is the only direct charge from which Government expect to get a steady income. But we have our reserves. The reserves are carefully stored up to meet emergent circumstances. If this is not an emergent circumstance, if this is not an acute period so far as the ryots are concerned, we cannot imagine what will be the nature of an emergent circumstance. In a period of depression, there is greater need for reduction of expenditure. At present we cannot imagine a more acute situation which necessitates substantial Government help. When we propose a reduction of 25 per cent. that figure may be staggering to Government who has to carry on the administration. We realise that. But they have sympathetically to consider the plight to which the ryots have fallen; and they have to take a courageous step in the matter of remission which is needed for the peasantry. Only if the peasantry is allowed to exist, Government can collect taxes in future also. It is no argument to say that none of the neighbouring Provinces have granted this remission. We have been setting examples in many directions of progressive administration and benevolent administration. Why not we set an example by giving this reduction, the need about which nobody can question, nobody can raise any substantial argument in opposition. The Government should take a bold step and apportion from the reserves a reasonable sum for this purpose. Reserves can be justified and are necessary for such purposes only. Whenever they have to be utilised, it must be in times of necessity. Such an occasion is come. I request the Government to accept this course and order a general reduction of 25 per cent. on account of the general economic depression and the suffering which has been aggravated by the flood damages of crops. With these few words, I move the motion for the acceptance of the House.

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MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : May I ask whether among the ryots there are not people who are able to pay ?

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May be.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : Should they also be given a remission ?

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : Yes.

It will be practically difficult and the time and energy spent on findingout the men who can really pay and those who cannot will not be commensurate with the result.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Should not the highly paid officers be exempted from that ?

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : I don't wish to make any distinction. It is the general question of tax-payers who have to pay land tax.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : People who own many lands—should they not be exempted ?

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : Have they not to pay more taxes ?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : Taking into consideration that they have to pay, what does the member say about that ?

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : They also should be exempted from payment.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*) : Does not the member think that 25 per cent. of the remission is conducive to the economic prosperity of the country.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : I do think so. It is a suicidal policy to collect taxes from the ryots at a time of acute depression.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*) : I strongly support the motion of Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai. I wish to refer to page 11 of the departmental Administration Report for 1107. There, under the heading, particulars of coercive processes issued for the realisation of dues, under demand notice in 1105 the number was 4,42,000 ; in 1106 it was 5,58,000 ; in 1107 it was 6,66,000. About distraint and attachment notices, they have also gone up about 8 times and the sale of lands has gone up to three times. What do all these figures show ? Coercive processes are increasing regularly on account of the economic depression. Let me also refer to the budget estimate. In 1108 it was Rs. 38,47,000 and the revised estimate was Rs. 34,50,000. The budget estimate of 1109 discloses the figure at over Rs. 36,00,000. Government themselves must be convinced of these facts. As a matter of fact, the ryot has become unable to pay. Exceptional circumstances justify exceptional remedies. We have a large amount, a surplus, of about a crore and odd, in the budget. On account of the exceptional circumstance, I should suggest that 25 per cent. of the tax should be remitted unconditionally.

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MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): I support the motion, in view of the hard condition of the ryots in Travancore. Their crops are destroyed, very many buildings are washed away as a result of the recent floods and they are not in a position, a majority of them, to pay land tax. I am of the view therefore, that at least 25 per cent. of the tax be remitted.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): I need not tell the House that this is a question which affects both the official and non-official benches of this House. During the budget speech, I referred to some figures to show that the agriculturist cannot even bear the expenses for his cultivation and pay tax out of the proceeds he gets out of cultivation. So far as South Travancore is concerned, Government think that they could even control the whims of nature. Government say, if on account of floods there is heavy loss, the ryots should not be allowed a reduction of tax. This flood was an event which affected Travancore, from Cape Comorin to Parur. According to rules, Government find it difficult to give concessions to South Travancoreans. For that, the people are not responsible. When putting these facts before you, I wish that this motion is passed unanimously by the officials as well as the non-officials.

One of the official members observed that some of the ryots at least are in a position to pay tax. I would frankly and boldly tell him that if he is able to pay tax it is not out of the proceeds or income that he gets from lands, but out of something else. I can assure the House that even the richest landlord is not easily able to pay his tax. When paddy and copra does not fetch any reasonable price, he cannot pay tax from the sale proceeds of what he gets. There may be exceptions, but that is not general. There is difference in the fertility of soil. You cannot get a single individual who in the present circumstances is able to pay without difficulty what is due to Government.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): One finds himself in a very grave difficulty, in dealing with this question. Personally, I feel my difficulty are greater. To oppose a motion of this nature appears at first sight to be very hard. We have had so many floods and various other causes which led to ruin. The people are suffering heavily so that when the question before the House is whether the land tax should be remitted, it requires considerable courage on the part of one to come forward and oppose it. But I wish to make some observations on this question, which will enable the House to understand the question in some of its additional bearings. We have got one-sixth of our revenue roughly, collected by way of land tax. We are spending heaps of money on education and other nation-building activities. The payments usually made to educational and other institutions have to be made in future as well. We have to maintain our hospitals,

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We have got to maintain our roads. The day before yesterday, I heard various members on this side of the House lamenting over the fact that we are continuing to spend more and more monies year after year from the reserves. The present proposal seems to be that some more money should be taken out of the accumulated savings. Sir, that is rather an inconsistent attitude. In this particular question the members on this side of the House are anxious to help the agriculturists even by taking out of the savings.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Was there any such complaint in this House or in the previous Councils?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): I am not bound by what took place in the previous Councils. I do not carry all the reports of the previous Councils in my head. I distinctly heard the members of this House to complain that the accumulated savings are becoming less and less. Responsibility requires that we should consider the question of taxation in all its aspects. I certainly recognise that the agriculturist needs help. But if a man who has to pay five rupees is to pay only five rupees minus Rs. 1¼ or if there is a remission of 25 per cent. it will not materially add to his convenience. Much less the man who pays a yearly tax of one rupee.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapurum*): May I know from the member what kind of help he would recommend?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Certainly I am prepared to say that. The present proposal is no good. On paper we will be doing an excellent thing. We may get the plaudits of people but actually I doubt whether it will benefit the cultivator. What I would propose is that in cases where there is actual hardship, where there have been devastating floods, where the crops have been destroyed and the people have been unable to pay, I would advocate any kind of help to those people. I would advocate the maximum help. But I would certainly object to any help being given to people who are rich, who are in affluence and who can afford to pay.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): Will the learned member be willing to recommend remission of taxes on the cocoanut trees which are ruined in this State? The learned Revenue Commissioner who was also the Agricultural Director and the present Director of Agriculture will bear testimony to the fact that people now have to pay taxes for cocoanut trees that have now ceased to exist.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): I have seen cocoanut gardens myself and I do not require the testimony of any officer. I have the fullest measure of sympathy with owners of cocoanut trees, whose trees have been destroyed but not with owners of cocoanut trees which are thriving even though the price has become a little less.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): How are we to ascertain the deserving cases for purposes of remission?

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MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*) : That is what the Land Revenue Department ought to do.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*) : But it is only the local officers who have been asked to enquire, and have they not already reported that everything is very fertile ?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*) : Sir, the officers, especially the officers in the lower rungs, are drawn from among the people of this country. And if anybody accuses these men, I should be very sorry. They are not imported from any foreign country. They are of the people. If there is anything wrong with these officers, no doubt we must correct them.

I am sorry, Sir, that I took some little time in answering this question. But let me make my proposal. The whole question may have to be considered in detail. The difficulty arises when we have to find money for various purposes, known as the nation-building activities and other activities. If, therefore, we give help which is of doubtful value, it will be giving help not only to those who deserve it but also to those who do not deserve it. It may not help the poor.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : Is not the land tax to be paid out of the produce of the land ?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*) : I am coming to that. It is not the land tax alone that people are paying. They have to pay a lot of indirect taxes and I do not see any special virtue in giving a reduction in land tax alone for the sake of giving a reduction. If you are able substantially to help the people, nobody can be warmer than I with regard to this proposal. But considering the consequence which may not be after all in the manner it is expected, this kind of remission may not be of use, especially at a time when there are various items of revenue and various items of expenditure. But for the present proposal the Government may give more substantial help. I therefore find myself unable to accept this proposal in its present form.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : Sir, I am in full sympathy with the motion of Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai. I am sorry to disagree with my friend Mr. Velu Pillai, who taking the cue from my friend Mr. Kayalam Parameswaran Pillai.....

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*) : Sir, I did not take the cue from anybody.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : As I thought, he wants to draw a distinction between persons who are able to pay and persons who are not able to pay. A more impracticable test cannot be thought of, for who is the authority to decide whether a particular person is able to pay ? What is the standard which will decide whether the capacity to pay exists or not ? Where is the line to be drawn at which the capacity to pay and the incapacity to pay may be fixed ? On the other hand, the main criterion of a rule or law should be universality and certainty. If the Government are satisfied that in

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the grip of economic depression, amidst the dance of unfavourable circumstances, the population, called the ryots, has suffered and stands in need of relief, to say that a line of demarcation should be drawn between those who, in the imagination of some people, are able to pay and those who are unable to pay, is a proposition which cannot be easily acceded to. The calamity caused by the economic depression, accentuated by the floods in south, north and central Travancore, made no such distinctions. It has hit everybody alike. What does it matter that some men happen accidentally to be rich and are able to withstand the onslaught of the season? Is not the rich man entitled to protection to the extent he has himself suffered? Why should his riches be taken into calculation in the universal suffering to which he is also a party? So, the ground urged by Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai is a ground which *prima facie* is unacceptable.

I feel however one difficulty with respect to the suggestion made by Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai in his speech, though in the motion as it appears in print, that suggestion does not occur. He suggested that there should be a 25 per cent. remission all round. I certainly do not find my way to accept such a suggestion. It should be a reasonable suggestion and I would leave it entirely to a sympathetic officer like Dr. Kunjan Pillai. For in the case of the paddy cultivators, the suffering, so far as I know, has been greater while in the case of cocoanut plantations and other cultivations the matter might not have led to any such deep suffering.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know the percentage which the member would himself suggest?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): I am not in a position to suggest anything. I am therefore leaving it to the Land Revenue Commissioner to settle it in a reasonable way.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I suggest that 20 per cent. might be acceptable?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Anything reasonable may be accepted.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Is 25 per cent. remission unreasonable according to the member?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): I am not saying that it is invariable, so I am not fixing it as a universal standard.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): I want to ascertain where exactly the question of unreasonableness would commence?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): I am very glad to answer that question. I answer that the unreasonableness lies in this —the suffering or the loss sustained by the owners of cocoanut gardens generally is not the suffering or loss sustained by the paddy cultivators in flooded areas. It is in that respect I would draw the distinction.

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MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): Has it come to the notice of the learned member that several cocoanut tree owners have been paying tax for the last 15 or 20 years due on cocoanut trees which are already destroyed and which number thousands and thousands?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): I am not quite certain about the number, but I know that as a matter of fact cocoanut trees which were assessed at the last settlement have some of them disappeared while others not assessed then have reached the yielding stage now.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Will not a re-settlement rectify that defect?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Certainly, but after the rectification the mistake would repeat itself. That is one of the reasons, declared openly, why there was a re-settlement in 1012 and another in 1058 and probably why we are promised one in the near future.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Is the member advocating remission only for the flooded areas?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): For the flooded areas certainly, and for any other area where there was under-production or ground for under-rating.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I am asking whether the member is in favour of remission for the whole State or for the area which has recently been flooded?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): I have witnessed some flooded areas and to that extent I am emphatic. With respect to other areas, since many of the members say that the income was down grade, I accept their view and I endorse what they press for consideration.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Is it the member's opinion that there may be a general remission of tax throughout the State with a total remission of tax in regard to flooded areas only?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): The member may take it in that sense by all means, if that is the sense of the House, in which case I have no hesitation in lending my support to the demand made by the House. As I said, I would rather leave it to my friend Dr. Kunjan Pillai to consider the matter to make a reasonable reduction in appropriate proportions with such variations as the facts would justify and to afford adequate relief to the population generally. With these few words, I have great pleasure in supporting the motion of Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai and in opposing the counter proposition of Mr. Velu Pillai.

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MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*). I wish to say a word of personal explanation. My position is not at all different from Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai's.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Then I do not oppose him at all. (*Laughter.*)

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): I rise to support the motion before the House. This year's flood havoc has reduced all the poor agriculturists, who are the mainstay of the Government, almost to a point of bankruptcy. In my place five repeated floods have occurred and we have received no help either from the public or from the Government. On the one side half-starved ryots are suffering and on the other the revenue officers are taking coercive measures to recover arrears of land tax. Unfortunately we are far away in the north of Travancore and our grievances are not remedied in time by Government. Recently I heard from some of the Proverthikars that the Land Revenue Commissioner had given instructions to them to take coercive steps in order to collect all the arrears if possible and no sort of reduction or remission will be made in the collection of land tax. So I plead for a general reduction of land tax at least by 20 per cent.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Sir, I support the motion before the House. To me it appears that the plea for a remission of tax has to be based on the general condition of the tax-payers at present apart from the question of floods. So far as the flood-affected areas are concerned, especially with reference to paddy fields that have been rendered absolutely unfit for cultivation for the next crop, I should urge that complete remission of tax be allowed. I have myself tabled a motion to that effect. But this motion, I understand, is in view of the general economic depression prevailing and the great economic difficulties to which the ryots are put. Now, Sir, it must be realised that even though the economic depression has been in evidence for the last two or three years, the coming year is going to be much more difficult than the last two or three years.

That is a fact which Government ought to take into account. Now at the beginning of a period like this, it may be possible for the people to pay up the tax. But two or three years after the commencement of the depression, the situation would become more difficult. So in view of the general situation of the ryots, substantial reduction of tax should be allowed. I fully agree with Dr. Kunjan Pillai in the view that it is no good allowing a suspension of tax because it would only add to the future difficulties. As for the 25 per cent. I have to agree with Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai because that figure has been placed before the House. But if left to myself, taking into account the position of Government, I would be satisfied with 20 or even 15 per cent. If an agreement is come to between the official members and members on this side of the House, personally I would be satisfied with 15 per cent. But as the figure now before the House is 25 per cent. I have to agree with Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai.

As for drawing funds from the reserve, and the objection raised to that, I ask in all earnestness why are the reserves owned,

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[Mr. A. Thanu Pillai.]

what are the reasons why they should not be used at a time like this. I believe it will be well realised that for schemes like the Hydro-Electric Scheme, Government may think of borrowing. But can we think of borrowing to meet a situation like the present one. These reserves are meant for difficult situations like the present. I cannot understand the objections to utilising the reserves on occasions like this. I think this is a fit occasion for reserves being drawn upon. I fully agree that money is required for nation-building activities. But money is required for nation-sustaining needs before it is required for nation-building activities. We must think of living first. Now the situation is that people cannot find money even for their daily necessities. I do not think Government have realised the difficulties of the people. Again, objection is taken that it is a drastic step and that it should not be resorted to. I do not understand that either. Have the Government done everything in their power to reduce the State expenditure? Have they even given effect to the very moderate recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee? If the reductions in the Land Revenue now proposed would reduce the Government receipts by Rs. 9 or 10 lakhs, why could not the Government make adjustments by reducing expenditure to meet the situation that would arise in consequence? Why not make a cut in the salary of officers? That may result in a saving of Rs. 4 or 5 lakhs a year. The Retrenchment Committee suggested proposals which if accepted, would cut down the annual expenditure to the extent of Rs. 16 lakhs a year. I ask why not accept the proposals? I am not at all satisfied with the objection taken by the Government benches to the reduction now proposed. I fully support the motion of Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Would the member advocate the reduction of grants-in-aid to the schools which are given as a temporary measure?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Then how could schools go on? Is education to be suspended? I do not think a situation has arisen when we should allow the education of our children to be suspended. I do not think the situation has arisen when we cannot allow this kind of relief to the agriculturists without suspension of our educational activities.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sir ar Vakil*): Can the amounts on Public Works Department be curtailed?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Sir, if after effecting all the possible economies in expenditure, the remission would necessitate a reduction in the public works expenditure, I would be for it. But I am far from holding the view that such a situation has arisen. Why should the Law member ask such a question? Has reduction been made in the salaries of officers? Sir, it is a very sad thing to hear such questions from the official side and also from some of the members on this side of the House.

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MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): Sir, I also rise to support the motion brought forward by Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai. To me it appears that there is no difference of opinion between the official bench and the members on this side of the House, because both agree that remission may be made in fit and deserving cases. My impression is that this is the fit occasion when remission can be made. It is not a question of certain areas being affected by the floods. Of course, certain areas have been devastated and heavy damages have been caused. But in other areas, the value of our raw products has been considerably reduced. The price of cocoanut has been considerably reduced. It fetches only a nominal price. Similarly the price of pepper and rubber has considerably fallen. So the question is simply whether the people are in a position to pay the tax that is levied on them. The fact that some people are affected by the floods does not mean that they are the only people unable to pay the tax. The Land Revenue Commissioner may also agree that people in general do not find it easy for them now to pay the tax that they used to pay. The Administration Report shows that there has been an increase of demand notices and sale by Government of land for arrears of tax for the last three or four years. This year the matter can only be worse. If Government are pursuing the coercive steps, I think the land tax could not be realised from the owners themselves. The only result of the continuance of the coercive steps, I believe, would be the transfer of the ownership of property from one person to another. That would lead after some time to a stage when the lands would be owned by a few capitalists, leaving the vast majority of the people absolutely without any land of their own. This morning the question of giving lands on concessional terms to the depressed classes was discussed on the floor of this House. My opinion is that, if we are not going to allow the remission and if Government is going to pursue the coercive steps, ultimately it may result in a large portion of the inhabitants of the State being put on the level of the depressed classes, if not from a social point of view, but from an economic point of view. A vast portion of the population will be without lands at all. Then the question may arise whether Government should not give lands to them also. It would be wise for the Government to allow a remission of land tax at this stage and save such a state of affairs. Then the only question that was raised by the official benches and the Deputy President-elect.....

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): I wish I should not be adressed as the Deputy President because that has not been sanctioned.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): I said the Deputy President-elect. It was purposely said.

The question is whether it would be desirable and practicable to allow a remission of land tax. That question reduces itself to this; whether the Government can run the budget proposals as put forward

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[Mr. K. Sankaran.]

by the Financial Secretary. It is practically a balanced budget with a nominal surplus. If we are to allow a remission of 25 per cent. of the land tax, there will be a reduction of Rs. 9 to 10 lakhs in the income. Where are we to get that income from? My suggestion is that there is a sure source of such an income. There must be a reduction to that extent in the expenditure. The Retrenchment Committee assures us that Rs. 13 lakhs could be reduced. That is not the recommendation of a purely non-official committee. It included Government officials also.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Does it not also include levying of fees in schools?

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : It may include. I do not say that the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee should be accepted as a whole. At least in fairness and in sympathy to the suffering ryots, the officials who draw big salaries should have conceded to a reduction of their salary. That is my contention. It is not a novel idea. I think in Madras the high officers voluntarily consented to a reduction in their salary. I think our Dewan President is one of such officers who is suffering from such a cut. A 10 per cent. cut has been effected and when they knew that the economic depression was slightly improving they have reduced it to 5 per cent. Why not our officers also do like that by making a 5 per cent. cut in their salary to save the poor ryots. That would go a great way to promote the welfare of the people. Then there are a good many other ways in which the expenditure of the State could be reduced.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : Should the pensions also be reduced?

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : That can also be reduced if Government so desire.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : I am asking the member's opinion.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) I am for reducing the pensions also. If a reduction in pension is necessary to meet such a situation, I am agreeable to that. But I do not think that such an extraordinary situation has arisen.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : Does not the member think that the general increment given to Government officers should also be stopped?

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : Yes, certainly I do.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*) : Does not the member think that there is a difference between pay and pension?

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : Yes.

I fully agree with the proposal put forward by Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai. There is no difficulty in balancing the budget by resorting to the reductions recommended by the Retrenchment Committee and thus the deficit on account of the remission of tax can be balanced. I fully agree with the mover of the motion.

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MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : Sir, as one coming from Nanjinad, the motion of Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai appears to me to be very moderate. I was under the impression that he would go at the Land Revenue Commissioner, lock, stock and barrel. But here is a very modest attempt made by him, that is a reduction of 25 per cent. in the land revenue. The question, if I may say so with respect, is not whether there are certain persons who are able to pay taxes or not but whether the lands in Travancore, whether paddy fields or cocoanut gardens, are in a position to pay the wages of cultivation, some profit to the agriculturists, and some tax also to the Government. That is the question.

Sir, it is not a question as to whether the people, the owners of the lands, are willing or not willing to pay, or able or not able to pay. This confusion, if I may say so, arises from the fact that the land revenue system in Travancore is based on two economic fallacies. I find it even from the latest Administration Report, where it is stated

> " In the case of *Pandaravaka* lands held directly under the Sirkar, the tax due to the Sirkar is really *pattom* (rent) and it represents the share of the produce of the land which the Sirkar is entitled to. "

Sir, it is an exploded theory, in political economy, to say that the " Sirkar dues from land " is ' rent 'as if the Sirkar is the landlord. Long, long ago, this idea was given up by the Madras Government, for instance, in the year 1856, when the Madras Government, then under the East India Company, wrote to the Home Government recommending permanent revenue settlement, they wrote to say :—

> " It must be remembered that the right of Government is not a *rent* which consists of all the surplus produce after paying the costs of cultivation, the profits of agricultural stock, but a land revenue only which ought if possible to be so lightly assessed as to leave a surplus or rent to the occupier whether he in fact let the land or retain it in his own hand. "

And, Lord Salisbury, Ex-Prime Minister, also upheld the theory that "the dues" to Government was not rent. This is how he put it :

> " To the modern statesman the refined distinctions of the economical school are a solid living reality from which he can as little separate his thoughts as from his mother tongue. To us it may seem indifferent whether we call a payment revenue or rent so we get the money; but it is not indifferent by what name we call within his hearing. "

Sir, the theory that is accepted all over the civilised world, namely that the dues to Government is not rent, was propounded by Professor Marshall, one of the greatest economists of all time. He said that the relationship of land-lord and tenant was one of sharing the profits and that the relationship of Government and the land-owner is one of partnership as of an industrial firm. Now in Travancore, what is the condition of this firm ? The indebtedness of the land-owners is to the extent of about fifty crores of rupees. Professor Marshall has described the Government as the " sleeping partner " and the agriculturist as the " working partner. " I submit, Sir, it is absolutely illegal and inequitable for one partner, the sleeping partner, to go and sell the assets of the business for his share of the profits, especially at a time when there

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[Mr. P. Chidambaram Pillai.]

is no profit at all and the firm stands heavily indebted. (*Hear, hear.*) As things stand at present, it would be sound policy for the Government of Travancore to declare a moratorium, more or less, in regard to the dues to Government. Of course, even before the discussion on this motion was started, the Land Revenue Commissioner has stated that he was not going to recommend any remission for the next year and that he was hoping for things to improve. Of course, I also wish it. But the question is this. Why not the Land Revenue Commissioner give some encouragement at least to the broken-hearted agriculturists of Travancore so that he may have some enthusiasm for his work? If we are going to get a bumper crop next year, Sir, we are not going to run away with it. We will certainly pay all the dues to Government including arrears. Therefore I appeal to the Land Revenue Commissioner, who knows the situation in the country much better than any other officer, and ask him why he should not sympathise with the poor agriculturist of Travancore and give him some encouragement. My friend Mr. Thanu Pillai suggested that this was a time when the Government should fall back upon their resources and not squeeze out the very last pie from the agriculturist. I do not go to that extent. All that I suggest is that something like a moratorium may be given to the poor ryot so that, if, as the Land Revenue Commissioner hopes, and as we all wish, the situation gets better next year, we will all pay the dues to Government in full. I therefore fully support the motion of Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai who has been very moderate in his demand.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Sir, I move that the question be now put.

PRESIDENT: I think the debate may continue a little longer.

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ എതിർക്കുന്നതു വളരെ ഭയത്തോടുകൂടിയാണ്. ഭൂനികുതിയിൽ എന്തെങ്കിലും കുറവു ചെയ്യാൽ അതുനിമിത്തം ഭൂമിയുടമസ്ഥന്മാർക്കല്ലാതെ രാജ്യത്തിലുള്ള മറ്റു ജനങ്ങൾക്കു പറയത്തക്ക ഗുണമൊന്നും ഉണ്ടാകാനിടയില്ല.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): പിന്നെ ഏതിനത്തിൽ ഉള്ളതു് കുറച്ചാണു് ആ ഗുണംകിട്ടുന്നതു്?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): ഭൂനികുതികുറച്ചാൽ അതുനിമിത്തം മുതുക്കം ആളുകൾക്കുമാത്രമെ ഗുണം കിട്ടുകയുള്ളൂ.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): കൃഷിപ്പിഴകൊണ്ടുള്ള നഷ്ടം തുക്കാണു് ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതു്?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): കൃഷിക്കാരായിട്ടുള്ളവർക്കു്.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): ഭൂമി ഇല്ലാത്തവർക്കു നഷ്ടം ഉണ്ടോ?

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MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): ഇല്ല.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): ഭൂനികുതി കുറക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു കൃഷിയുടെ നഷ്ടം തീരുകയില്ലെ?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): ഇല്ല.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENEON (*Shertala I*): ഭൂനികുതിയെപ്പറ്റിമാത്രമല്ലെ ഇവിടെ വാദം നടക്കുന്നതു്?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): അതെ.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): ഇതിനെക്കുറിച്ചു അടുത്ത ഉപക്ഷേപം ഒമ്പർതന്നെ ഹാജരാക്കുമോ?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): അതിനെപ്പറ്റി എനിക്കു എന്തെങ്കിലും ഹാജരാക്കേണ്ടതുണ്ടായിരുന്നെങ്കിൽ ഞാൻ ഇതിനുമുമ്പേ ഹാജരാക്കുമായിരുന്നു.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): കൃഷിനിമിത്തമുള്ള അധ്യായം ഭൂമി ഇല്ലാത്തവർക്കും പ്രയോജനകരമായിതീരുന്നുണ്ടു് എന്നു അറിയാമോ?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): ഭൂമി ഇല്ലാത്തവർക്കു കൃഷികൊണ്ടു സാരമായ പ്രയോജനമൊന്നും കിട്ടുന്നില്ല.

ഭൂസ്വത്തുള്ളവരുടെ എണ്ണം വളരെകുറവും ഭൂമിഇല്ലാത്തവരുടെ എണ്ണം ലോകം മുഴുവനുമാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഭൂമി ഇല്ലാത്തവർക്കു ഭൂനികുതികുറയ്ക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് പ്രയോജനമില്ല.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): വസ്തുഉടമസ്ഥന്മാരെകൊണ്ടു ധാരാളം സാധുക്കൾ ജീവിതംകഴിച്ചുകൂട്ടുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു് അറിയാമോ?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): അങ്ങിനെ അല്ലാത്തവരാണു അധികം.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): കുറെ അളുകൾക്കുപോലും രക്ഷകിട്ടുന്നതെന്നാണോ മെംബറിന്റെ ആശ?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): അങ്ങിനെ ഞാൻ ഗ്രഹിച്ചിട്ടില്ല.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): ഭൂമി ഇല്ലാത്തവരും നിത്യസമയം ജീവിതം കഴിച്ചുകൂട്ടുന്നില്ലേ?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): എത്രയോകാലമായി ഭൂമിയില്ലാതെ കഴിച്ചുകൂട്ടുന്നുണ്ടു്. അധ്വാനശീലരായ പുലയർ point of order. but, in spite of എത്രയോകാലമായി ഭൂമിഇല്ലാതെ കഴിച്ചുകൂട്ടുന്നവരാണു

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) അധ്യക്ഷൻ പിന്നെ ഭൂമിചോദിക്കുന്നതു് എന്തിനാണു്?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): അഞ്ചു് രൂപയിൽക്കൂടുതൽ കരംതീരുവയുള്ളവർ അവരുടെ ഇടയിലും ഉണ്ടാകുവാനായിരിക്കാം അവക്കു് കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ള ഭൂമികൊണ്ടു് ഒരു പ്രയോജനവും അവക്കില്ലെന്നു് അവർ പറയുന്നതു. ആ ഭൂമി കൃഷിചെയ്തു് ആദായമെടുക്കാൻ കൊള്ളരുതാത്തവയാണെന്നു് അവർതന്നെ പറയുന്നു.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): പ്രായപൂർത്തിയുള്ളവക്കെല്ലാം വോട്ടവകാശം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നാൽ ആ വിഷയത്തിൽ ഭൂമിയുടെ ആവശ്യം ഉണ്ടാകുമോ?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): വോട്ടിന്റെ കാര്യത്തിൽ വരികയില്ല. ഈ [illegible] ജനങ്ങളുടെയിടയിൽ അഞ്ചു രൂപായിൽ കൂടുതൽ കരമുള്ളവരുടെ സംഖ്യ ഒന്നരലക്ഷത്തിൽ കൂടുതൽ ഇല്ല.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery cum Peermade II*): അഞ്ചു രൂപായിൽ കുറഞ്ഞ കരംകൊടുക്കുന്നവരല്ലെ ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളും?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): അഞ്ചു് രൂപാ നികുതി കൊടുക്കുന്നവർ വളരെ കുറവാണു്.

ഒരുരൂപായ്ക്കുതാഴെ കരംകൊടുക്കുന്നവരാണധികവുമെന്നു തോന്നുന്നു.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): ലാൻഡ്‌റവന്യു കൊടുക്കുന്നവരായി ആകെ എത്ര ആളുകൾ കാണും?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): അതു ഞാൻ നോക്കിയിട്ടില്ല.

ഈ രാജ്യത്തു കരം കൊടുക്കുന്നവരുടെ എണ്ണം കൊടുക്കാത്തവരുടെ എണ്ണത്തെക്കാൾ ഇരട്ടിയോളം കുറവാണു്. കരംകൊടുക്കുന്നവരിൽ അധികംപേരും കുറഞ്ഞ നിരക്കിലുള്ള കരംകൊടുക്കുന്നവരാണു്.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): ഒരുകാര്യം നിമിത്തം ഗുണദോഷം നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്നതു ജനസംഖ്യയനുസരിച്ചാണൊ?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): ഗുണദോഷങ്ങളെ പരിശോധിച്ചുനോക്കുമ്പോൾ ജനസംഖ്യയുടെ കാര്യം മുഖ്യമായി ആലോചിക്കേണ്ട ഒരു കാര്യമാണു്. ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾക്കു സങ്കടകരമായ സംഗതികൾക്കു പരിഹാരം ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതുണ്ടു്.

MR. KAINI: ഭൂമി ഇല്ലാത്തവർ

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MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*) : കുറെ ആളു കഠംക്കുമാത്രമുള്ള സങ്കടമാണെങ്കിൽ അതിനെ സാവധാനത്തിൽ പരിഹരിച്ചാൽമതി എന്നാണോ അഭിപ്രായം?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*) : രാജ്യത്തിലുള്ള പ്രജകളിൽ ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളുടെ സുഖത്തിനുവേണ്ടിയാണു രാജ്യഭരണം നടത്തുന്നതു്. ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളുടെ സങ്കടപരിഹാരത്തിനുവേണ്ടിയായിരിക്കണം ഗവണ്മെൻറു വളരെ സഹായംചെയ്യേണ്ടതു്.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*) : കൊല്ലത്തു ഇലക്ട്രിക്കലൈറ്റു പദ്ധതി ഏർപ്പെടുത്താൻ നിശ്ചയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾക്കും ഗുണം ഉണ്ടാകുമോ?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*) : അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഗവണ്മെൻറിനുണ്ടാകുന്ന കൂടുതൽ ആദായം ജനങ്ങൾക്കു കൂടുതൽ ഗുണത്തിനു വിനിയോഗിക്കാവുന്നതാണു്.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : വന്യമൃഗങ്ങളെ സംരക്ഷിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഗുണം ഉണ്ടാകുമോ?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*) : അതുകൊണ്ടു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു ആദായമുണ്ടാകുമ്പോൾ ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളുടെ ഗുണത്തിനായി ഗവണ്മെൻറു് അതു വിനിയോഗിക്കുമെന്നാണെൻറെ വിശ്വാസം.

MR. E. K. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*) : കരംകുറയ്ക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു കരമില്ലാത്തവർക്കു ദോഷമുണ്ടാകുമോ?

MR. C. V. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): കരമില്ലാത്തവർക്കു പ്രത്യേകിച്ചു ദോഷമൊന്നുമില്ല.

ഈ രാജ്യത്തിൽ രണ്ടരക്കോടിരൂപാ മുതലെടുപ്പുണ്ടു്, ഭൂനികുതിയുടെ ലക്ഷമെ ഉള്ളു. ഒരുകോടി പതിനാലുലക്ഷം രൂപാ മറ്റു നികുതികളാണു്. അതു ഭിക്ഷക്കാർപോലും കൊടുക്കുന്നതാണു്. അതുപോലെ എല്ലാവരും ഭൂനികുതി കൊടുക്കുന്നവരാണെങ്കിൽ ഭൂനികുതി കുറയ്ക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു എല്ലാവർക്കും പ്രയോജനമുണ്ടാകും. ഈ സംഗതിയിൽ അങ്ങിനെയല്ല.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*) : സർ, അഞ്ചുമിനിട്ടുസമയം മാത്രമെ ഒരു മെമ്പർക്കു് അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളു. അതു കഴിഞ്ഞു.

PRESIDENT : Your time is up.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : I beg to rise to a point of order. I submitted to the President that the question be put; but, in spite of my submission, discussion is going on.

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PRESIDENT: It is entirely within the discretion of the President to accept such closure motions or not. I said I thought that the debate might continue a little longer.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): ഭൂനികുതിയിൽ ൨൫ ശതമാനം കുറച്ചുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നുള്ള മി: കുഞ്ഞുകൃഷ്ണപിള്ളയുടെ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻ ബലമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. മി. സി. വി. കുഞ്ഞുരാമൻ അതിനെ എതുക്കുകയാണു ചെയ്തതു്. സാധുക്കളായ ഭൂസ്വത്തുടമസ്ഥന്മാരല്ലാത്തവക്കു് അതുകൊണ്ടു പ്രയോജനം കിട്ടുകയില്ല എന്നാണു് അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ വാദം. ആ അഭിപ്രായം ശരിയല്ലെന്നാണു് എന്റെ വാദം. ഭൂനികുതികൊടുക്കാൻ സാധിക്കാതെ ഇപ്പോൾ വലിയ സ്വത്തുകാർപോലും ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു് എനിക്കു് അനുഭവത്തിൽനിന്നു് അറിയാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്. പത്തുരൂപാ കരംകൊടുക്കുന്ന ഒരാളിന്റെ വസ്തുലേലത്തിൽ വിറ്റുപോകുമ്പോൾ അയാൾക്കുണ്ടാകുന്ന പരിഭ്രമം എത്രമാത്രമുണ്ടെന്നു നേരിട്ടു് അറിഞ്ഞെങ്കിൽമാത്രമെ മനസ്സിലാകുകയുള്ളു.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanacherry cum Peermade II*) പത്തുരൂപാകരക്കുടിശിഖക്കുവേണ്ടി എത്രരൂപാ വിലയുള്ള വസ്തുവാണു് ലേലത്തിൽ വിറ്റുപോകുന്നതെന്നു അറിയാമോ?

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): പത്തുരൂപായുടെ കരക്കുടിശ്ശിഖക്കു് ൨൦൦ രൂപാവരെ വിലയുള്ള വസ്തു ലേലത്തിൽവിറ്റുപോകുന്നു. സെന്ററിനു ൨൫ രൂപാ വിലയുള്ള വസ്തുവിനെ ഭൂനികുതിക്കുവേണ്ടി ലേലം ചെയ്യുമ്പോൾ ൪ രൂപാലേലത്തിലാണു പോകുന്നതു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു വളരെ നഷ്ടം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഭൂസ്വത്തുടമസ്ഥന്മാർ നല്ല നിലയിൽ ജീവിക്കുന്നുഎങ്കിൽ മാത്രമെ സാധുക്കളായ മറ്റുള്ളവക്കു് ജീവിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കയുള്ളു. സ്വത്തുകാരെ ആശ്രയിച്ചു ജീവിക്കുന്ന അനേകംസാധുക്കൾ ഉണ്ടു്. അതിനാൽ ഭൂസ്വത്തുടമസ്ഥന്മാക്കു ഭൂനികുതി കുറച്ചുകൊടുത്താൽ ഭൂസ്വത്തില്ലാത്തവക്കു പ്രയോജനമില്ലാ എന്നുപറയുന്ന വാദം ശരിയല്ല.

ഇപ്പോൾ ഉൽപ്പന്നങ്ങൾക്കു വില തീരെ കുറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. നാളികേരത്തിന്റെ വില ഇപ്പോൾ വളരെ കുറവാണു്. ആയിരം നാളികേരത്തിനു ൫൪ രൂപയേ വിലയുള്ളു. ഒരു രൂപക്കു നാലുപറനെല്ലു കിട്ടുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഈ കണക്കനു ഉല്പന്നങ്ങളുടെ വില തുടർന്നുപോകുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഭൂസ്വത്തുടമസ്ഥന്മാക്കു വലിയനഷ്ടം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതാണു്. ഇങ്ങനേയുള്ള ഒരു കഷ്ടസ്ഥിതിയിൽനിന്നു് അവരെ രക്ഷിക്കണമെന്നുപറയുമ്പോൾ അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യാൻ പാടില്ല എന്നുപറയുന്നതു് വളരെ കടുപ്പമാണു.

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ഇരുപത്തഞ്ചു ശതമാനം ഭൂനികുതി കുറച്ചുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നുള്ള മി. കുഞ്ഞുകൃഷ്ണപിള്ളയുടെ അഭിപ്രായം വളരെ മിതമായിട്ടുള്ള ഒന്നാണ്. അതിനാൽ അതിനെ അനുവദിച്ചുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോടുകൂടി ഞാൻ പൂർണ്ണമായി യോജിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. P. C. NARAYANAN BHATTATIRIPAD (*Travancore Jenmies, South*): ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻപിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. ഭൂനികുതിയിൽ അല്പം ഇളവുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നു ഈ അവസരത്തിൽആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നു എങ്കിൽ അതു ഒരു മിതമായ അപേക്ഷമാത്രമെ ആകുന്നുള്ളു. ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഇപ്പോൾ കരംകൊടുക്കുന്നതിനോ ആഹാരം കഴിക്കുന്നതിനൊ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതിരിക്കുന്നു. ജന്മിക്കരം സെറിൽമെൻറു നടത്തുന്ന കാലമാണു ഇതു്. കഴിഞ്ഞ മേടമാസത്തിൽ കിട്ടേണ്ട ജന്മിക്കരം കൂടുതൽഭാഗവും ഇതുവരെ പിരിഞ്ഞുകിട്ടീട്ടില്ല. അല്പമായി പിരിഞ്ഞുകിട്ടുന്ന നെല്ലുകൊണ്ടു ആഹാരം കഴിക്കുന്നതിനും കരം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനും സാധിക്കാത്ത ഒരുനിലയിലാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അതുകൊണ്ടുപലജംഗമസാധനങ്ങൾകൂടി ജപ്തിചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഭൂനികുതി ഏതാനുംപേക്ക് കുറയ്ക്കുണമെന്നും ഏതാനുംപേർക്കു കുറയ്ക്കുണ്ടാഎന്നും പറയുന്നതു ന്യായമായിട്ടുള്ളതല്ല. സാധനങ്ങളുടെ വിലക്കുറവും വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കംകൊണ്ടുള്ള നഷ്ടവും സാധനദൌർലഭ്യവും പരിഗണിച്ചു എല്ലാപേർക്കും ഒരുപോലെ കരം കുറച്ചുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോടുകൂടി ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻ ബലമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) : Sir, I support the motion. My taluk has had heavy floods. Even in places where there were no floods, fields have been heavily damaged. Owing to the excessive rains, all crops have been destroyed. The price of crops has gone down by 50 per cent. So, the remission suggested is very reasonable. I support the motion.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*) : I rise to associate myself with the general principle underlying the motion of Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai. I am aware, Sir, that as a result of the economic crisis and the recent floods, the agricultural population of certain particular areas of Travancore is very much affected indeed. Especially the places I come from, particularly the Kuttanad region, after the experience of the last two great floods, are really going through a very bad time. All these people have approached Government and Government were sympathetically considering their prayer and are doing what they could. I remember last year Government came forward and helped these people financially. Even in this year's budget, Government have allotted a good amount for loans to be earmarked for the Kuttanad people. But I cannot see my way to join with my friend, Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai, in

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[Mr. K. C. Karunakaran]

asking for a general remission for the whole of Travancore. If my memory is right, I am glad to see that my friend Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai is very consistent with one general principle. If I am rightly informed, when the question of full concession of school fees to the Ezhava students came up before the House on a former occasion, Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai rightly said that a general concession to Ezhava students should not be granted. I think he was quite right and I am glad that he gave me an opportunity to enable me to give the fees for my children and thus indirectly contribute to Government and see that my civic responsibilities are realised. I would have felt ashamed if Government had taken some action by which I would be precluded from paying school fees to my children. In the same way, Sir, there are people who are able to pay the land tax. As many people have pointed out, the whole block on that side (*pointing to the southern wing of the House*) is in a position to contribute the land tax. I am also sure that a friend of mine like Mr. Damodaran Asan or Mr. Narayana Pillai is able to contribute to the land tax and indirectly see that the revenues of the State are kept up for other nation-building departments. So, I am very glad to join with Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai in asking Government to give a reasonable remission to those parts which are really suffering from this economic depression. This matter should be left to the good sense of the Revenue Commissioner with whom I had the good fortune to travel recently from Cape Comorin to Parur. He has really seen the difficulties of the people in some of the taluks. From my talks and experience with him in these few weeks, I am convinced that he is prepared to recommend to Government that some help should be given to the people who are affected by the economic depression and the floods.

Sir, another matter I want to mention is that we are getting great difficulties from outside. Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai emphasised the difficulties of paddy cultivators. Here I think the whole difficulty is the result of the dumping of outside rice and paddy into Travancore. Those who are in touch with the world economic conditions know very well that Japan is now making systematic preparations for dumping the whole Malabar coast, including Travancore, with their rice and paddy.

PRESIDENT: Your time is up.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai referred in his motion to a general remission of 25 per cent. of land tax and also to special remission on account of the recent flood damages. I hope that I will be in order if I refer to both these subjects.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): I wish to correct the member before he proceeds. I said that the suffering of the ryots on account of the general economic depression, aggravated by the floods, necessitates a general reduction of 25 per cent. That is the only point I made.

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : I thank the member for the statement. Anyhow he said that the floods have aggravated the economic depression and on that ground he urges a general remission of 25 per cent. of the land tax. Regarding the floods I may just point out that Government are considering very seriously the question of giving some relief to the ryots whose crops have been damaged. A circular has been issued to all Peishkars and Tahsildars to note down the survey number and area of lands on which crops have been damaged and of lands covered with sand on account of the breaches ; and I am expecting consolidated reports from the Peishkars in the course of the next few months. It will be only fair in cases of areas in which the crop has been damaged to give a remission of tax. Where the crop has been completely damaged, the whole tax may have to be remitted and where it is partially damaged, partial remission may have to be given. The question of repairing flood damages and of remission of taxes on lands affected will be considered by Government. I am only waiting for the reports from Peishkars. Remission on account of flood damages was specifically urged by Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai. Regarding general remission, I have to make a few observations. The demand now made is for a general remission of 25 per cent. of land tax. It means Government will have to lose something like 9 lakhs of rupees.

If this request of Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai is granted, Government will lose a revenue of about 9 lakhs of rupees. In the course of the discussion, Mr. C. V. Kunjuraman brought to the notice of this House that the number of persons who will be substantially benefited by such a remission of 25 per cent. of land tax is comparatively small compared with the number of persons who will not be benefited. I have some figures to place before the House about the number of persons who pay land tax in Travancore. The total number is about 12 lakhs. Of these, nearly 7 lakhs or 55 per cent. pay a tax of one rupee and less. It may be anything like from four cash to one rupee. 56 per cent of the total number of tax payers come under this category. Those who pay a tax of Re. 1 to Rs. 5 come to about 3 lakhs so that the total number of persons who pay a tax ranging from a few cash up to Rs. 5 is nearly 10 lakhs out of 12 lakhs of people, that is to say about 87 per cent. of the tax payers pay a tax of Rs. 5 and less. What is the benefit that these 10 lakhs of people will get, if a remission of 25 per cent. is granted as recommended by Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai. The benefit will be from a few cash up to Re. 1-4-0 per head per annum. Is that going to help them to any extent? A reduction of Rs. 1-4-0 in one's income in a year in the case of 87 per cent. of the tax payers is after all not much. How far it will be of help to them, I do not know.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : May I ask the member whether there is any harm in raising the minimum tax to one rupee in every case?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : I am only speaking on the motion of Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai.

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Is it his view that the relief granted to the 10 lakhs of people is inadequate ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The benefit will be from a few cash to Re. 1-4-0 per head per annum. The cumulative effect on the Government is a loss of 9 lakhs of rupees and on the people the maximum loss to an individual will be about Re. 1-4-0 in the case of 87 per cent. of the tax payers. You can understand that the loss to a tax-payer is insignificant and that to the Government is as much as 9 lakhs of rupees. A question may be asked, is not Re. 1-4-0 something in the case of poor people. I have some other figures to show that the people are not stinting expenditure in directions other than payment of land tax. I find from the figures published in the Government Gazette.....

MR PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Does the member refer to payment in other directions as not payments for purposes of land revenue.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): From the figures published in the Government Gazette, I find that, up to the end of Edavom this year, revenue from abkari and tobacco, increased by Rs. 4 lakhs from what it was during the corresponding period last year. I also find, there is a small increase in the receipts of the Education Department.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know whether it is obligatory on the part of the ryot to contribute to the abkari or tobacco revenue, while it is not obligatory to pay the land tax.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I only say that people who are stinting expenditure in other directions come forward and say that there should be reduction in land tax.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Is the member aware that the increase is due to the fact that the duty has increased.

RAO SAHIB DR. N KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I only say that more money is being spent in directions other than in payment of land revenue.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): Does the member mean to say that the paying capacity of the people has increased ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I am only saying that people spend more money in other directions.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): പുകയിലയുടെ ഡ്യൂട്ടികൂട്ടിയതുകൊണ്ടാണല്ല ആദായം വർദ്ധിച്ചതു്?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): അതിന്റെ തുക്കം കുറഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ല.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): പുകയില ഉപയോഗിച്ചു വരുന്നതു വേണ്ടെന്നാണൊ അഭിപ്രായം?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): വേണമെന്നും വേണ്ടെന്നും വിചാരിക്കുന്നവർഉണ്ട്. ആ ഇനങ്ങളിൽ ഇനങ്ങൾ പണം ധാരാളമായി ചിലവാക്കുന്നു. കരംകൊടുക്കുന്ന കാര്യം വരുമ്പോൾമാത്രം കുറവുചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നാവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നു.

The remission that you are asking for is only to benefit some from a few cash up to Re. 1-4-0.

MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*), വസ്തുഉടമസ്ഥന്മാർമാത്രമെ പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുകയില്ല ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നുള്ളുവോ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): പലരും പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുകയില്ല ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Are the Government prepared to forego the additional 4 lakhs of rupees?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) I cannot say.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) Has the member a scheme which would enable the ryot to get substantial benefit by a reduction of any of the items of revenue.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) I am only discussing the motion brought forward by Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : When the member says that the benefit is small, may I know, is there anything which the member could suggest that will give substantial help to the ryot ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : I have nothing to suggest. People are spending money in other directions and are asking for a remission of land tax. If the remission will benefit a substantial number of people, I can understand the reasonableness of the request. After all it is only from a few cash to Re. 1-4-0 which 88 per cent. of the tax payers will gain. I do not at all say for a moment that all people are in a position to pay land tax, and that the ryots do not stand in need of help. Far from it, I know that the people are put to great difficulty on account of the present economic depression.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): Is the member aware that the Cochin Government have granted a remission ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : It was said a little while ago that our Government should set an example and should not follow the example of Cochin. Why should we follow Cochin ? After all what the Cochin Government have done is the suspension of collection of one-eighth of the land tax for 1109. They have not sanctioned any remission. I wired and got an authoritative information, that that Government proposed only to suspend the collection of one-eighth of the land tax for 1109.

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MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know from the member, what is the difference between a recommendation for the acceptance of suspension and that for remission?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I have nothing to say except that what is adopted in Cochin is a suspension of the collection of land tax.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Is the member going to say that he will again wire and get a reply?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No.

This House has already passed a motion to suspend all coercive steps in the collection of tax. This is all the relief the Cochin Government have promised to give to their people. Our Government have not been unaware of the present hardship of the people. They have been doing all that they could for the last three years. Every year a motion comes up either for the suspension or remission of tax and it is invariably carried. Whatever is possible is being done by Government. Take for instance the Kandukrishi tax. During the last three years, Government have granted substantial concession to Kandukrishi ryots. The commutation rate for paddy originally fixed was 24 chuckrams per *para* but now Government are realising only 12 chuckrams per *para*. Government have lost at least 2 to 3 lakhs of rupees by this concession.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade II*): What about the market price of paddy now?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It is about 12 chuckrams per *para*. I have the price list furnished by the Travancore Chamber of Commerce. It shows that the price of paddy is Rs. 3-8-0 per bag at Alleppey, which comes to about 12 chuckrams per *para*. If this is the wholesale price of paddy at Alleppey, it will surely be more in the interior parts. I take it that the price of paddy at present is not more than 12 chuckrams per *para*. In Nanjinad in addition to the fall in the price of paddy, the yield of the last crop was very poor on account of the widespread attack of pest. The yield which used to be 10 or 12 *kottas* per acre, was hardly 4 *kottas*.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the people of Nanjinad attempted to have a no-tax campaign started?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not know.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): And as a result, 25 per cent. remission has been granted?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): 25 per cent. remission was granted, but not on account of a no-tax campaign.

The yield was very poor and hence a reasonable remission was granted.

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MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): I may inform the member that there was no such idea of any no-tax campaign.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): It is admitted by the member that there is hardship felt by the people and he says a lot of money is spent in directions other than land revenue. How does the member reconcile those statements? Will he please explain that?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): In Nanjinad, the yield was affected to a very large extent by the pest. This fact was represented to Government and a remission of 25 per cent. of the tax on the Kumbhom crop was granted.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): May I know whether there is any discremination shown between the rich and the poor, in the matter of remission?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No distinction; all tax payers get the benefit of remission. Similarly, *punja* and *kayal* cultivators have petitioned to Government that their yield was also poor, and prayed for a remission of the tax on their lands. The matter is now under the consideration of Government. In the case of lands on which crops have been damaged by floods, Government are considering very seriously the question of a complete or partial remission. In regard to a general remission of 25 per cent., we have to bear in mind that Government will lose Rs. 9 lakhs. Well it may be laid that there is reserve and that the loss could be made good from it.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I wish to draw the attention of Government to the time limit.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The Economic Depression Enquiry Committee recommended that large Public Works schemes should be undertaken during the period of economic depression to provide employment for the unemployed. Government have now undertaken several such schemes, such as the Pallivasal scheme, water supply, electric supply, etc. These are schemes which will provide employment to a large number of people and at the same time they are profitable schemes also. Government are financing such schemes from the reserves. They are not borrowing money as has been done in Cochin. The Cochin Government have floated a loan of about Rs. 50 lakhs which bears interest to the extent of Rs. 2½ lakhs per annum. What does that show? No such loan has been floated by the Travancore Government. They are financing capital undertakings from their reserves.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know whether that is an authoritative statement that these schemes are being financed from the reserves?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I have not made an authoritative statement; I have only expressed what I know of the matter.

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MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : Is it the member's view that because the Cochin Government have floated a loan that it is following an unsound financial policy?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : I have not said so.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) : Why not save Rs. 12 lakhs by giving effect to the Retrenchment Committee's proposals?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Some of them have been given effect to. But other recommendations have not been given effect to for various reasons, and I am not concerned with them now. My only point is that Government are prepared to do all that is possible and view the question of remission with sympathy. They certainly are at one with the members on the other side of the House when they say that the people do stand in need of help and Government are convinced that relief is necessary. They have given relief as necessity arose and will surely continue this policy.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : Sir, Government dare not say that there is no need for relief. That has been admitted. Then what I want to say is that out of Rs. 2,38,88,000 which we the people contribute to Government, we want to reduce from land tax Rs. 8,00,000. There is no purpose served by creating differences between the land-holding classes and the landless classes. The specific question is with regard to the fall in price of agricultural produce and the difficulties caused to the ryots. Remission is sought on account of them.

Then with regard to the very curious argument brought forward that Government can find out who is able to pay and who is not able to pay, I think the general maxim ought to be accepted that even if some people who are capable of paying escape the liability, it is far better than forcing even one man who is really not able to pay, to pay and which I find the learned Deputy President is not willing to accept. I do not add anything more. I press the motion, to a division, Sir.

PRESIDENT : The motion proposed by Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 20,976 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1, to press that there should be a general remission of 25 per cent. of land tax. I hope the House realises the implications. It is a much more serious matter, of course, than the suspension of coercive processes. It means that the ordinary rules for remission are not considered sufficient and that the remission must apply to all lands which pay land tax, whether in the plains or in the hills, whether the crops have been damaged or whether they have not been damaged. It has been pointed out by the Land Revenue Commissioner what the result will be. What I want to say is that before voting on this subject the House should not be led away by sentiment and should be sure that the motion, if they support it, is both reasonable and practicable.

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I put the motion to the vote.

The motion was put to vote and carried.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): I demand a poll.

A poll was taken and the House divided as follows :—

AYES—35.

1	Mr. T. K. Alexander	
2	,, S. Chattanatha Karayalar	
3	,, P. Chidambaram Pillai	
4	,, A. S. Damodaran Asan	
5	,, A. Easwara Pillai (Kalkulam II)	
6	,, A. Easwara Pillai (Kottarakara)	
7	,, K. R. Elenkath	
8	,, S. J. Nair	
9	,, T. S. Jayanthan Namboothiri	
10	,, K. M. Krishnan	
11	,, K. P. Krishna Menon	
12	,, Pottayil S. Krishna Panickar	
13	,, E. V. Krishna Pillai	
14	,, N. K. Krishna Pillai	
15	,, Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai	
16	,, T. Krishna Pillai	
17	,, K. Kunjukrishna Pillai	
18	Mr. K. M. Kuriakose	
19	,, M. K. Madhavan Pillai	
20	,, K. Mahomed	
21	,, M. N. Nair	
22	,, P. K. Narayana Pillai	
23	,, S. Nilakanta Pillai	
24	,, K. Padmanabhan	
25	,, Edavanatt S. Padmanabha Menon	
26	,, Kainikkara M. Padmanabha Pillai	
27	,, Changanachery K. Paramesvaran Pillai	
28	,, V. Ramakrishna Panickar	
29	,, K. Sankaran	
30	,, R. Sivasubramanya Nadar	
31	,, A. Thanu Pillai	
32	,, P. K. Thomas	
33	,, N. E. Varughese	
34	,, V. K. Velappan Nair	
35	,, T. P. Velayudhan Pillai	

NOES—19.

1	Mr. K. C. Abraham	
2	,, V. T. Chacko	
3	,, C. V. Chandrasekharan	
4	,, Antony George	
5	,, K. George	
6	,, L. H. Jacob	
7	,, N. John Joseph	
8	,, T. T. Kesavan Sastri	
9	,, Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai	
10	,, C. V. Kunjuraman	
11	Mr. C. O. Madhavan	
12	,, B. Narayana Pillai	
13	,, G. Nilakantan	
14	,, R. Nilakanta Pillai	
15	,, N. K. Padmanabha Pillai	
16	,, Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai	
17	,, T. C. Thommen	
18	,, John Whiteley Tolson	
19	,, T. K. Velu Pillai	

NEUTRALS 8.

1	Mr. N. Abdur Rahiman Sahib	
2	Miss Hepzibah Gnanasikamony	
3	Mr. M. Mahomed Haneef	
4	,, J. M. Joseph	
5	Mr. T. C. Joseph	
6	,, K. C. Karunakaran	
7	Srimathi T. Narayani Amma	
8	Mr. T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar	

PRESIDENT: We have scarcely any time for taking up any other motion for discussion.

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MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) : How many hours is reckoned as a day?

PRESIDENT : Are you raising a point of order?

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) : Yes.

PRESIDENT : Then, please state it.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) : I wish to know how many hours make up a day of sitting in this House.

PRESIDENT : From eleven to half past four.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) With what interval?

PRESIDENT : Three-quarters of an hour.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : In the last Council, five hours made a day, but in this House we get only four and three quarters of an hour, that is we get fifteen minutes less.

PRESIDENT : I do not think it is necessary that a day should be taken as five hours. It may be taken as from eleven to half-past four and the time for the debate will depend upon how long the question time takes.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : I wish to know how half a day is calculated.

PRESIDENT : Two and a half hours will be considered as half a day although strictly speaking it will be a little less.

The time allotted for the Demand being over the following motions were deemed to have lapsed :—

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI :

14. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2[illegible],976 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Rs. 5.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI :

15. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 8,100 for Divisional Treasury Officers by Re. 1.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI :

16. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,000 for travelling allowance by Rs. 2.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN :

17. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 92,667 for Division Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH :

18. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 92,667 for Division Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. E V. KRISHNA PILLAI

19. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 92,667 for Division Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI :

20. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 92,667 for Division Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI :

21. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 92,667 for Division Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH

22. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 92,667 for Division Cutcherries by Rs. 2.

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MR. A. THANU PILLAI :
23. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 92,067 for Division Cutcherries by Rs. 10.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI :
24. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 66,600 for Tahsildars by Re. 1.

MR. V. RAMAKRISHNA PANICKAR :
25. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 66,600 for salaries by Re. 1.

MR. A S. DAMODARAN ASAN ;
26. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 66,600 for salaries by Re. 1.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR :
27. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 21,100 for improvement of markets by Rs. 5

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER :
28. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,29,183 for Taluk Cutcherries by Re 1.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN :
29. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,29,183 for Taluk Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. M. N. NAIR :
30. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,29,183 for Taluk Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI :
31. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,29,183 for Taluk Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI
32. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,29,183 for Taluk Cutcherries by Rs 10.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*) :
33. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,29,183 for Taluk Cutcherries by Rs. 100.

MR. A. S DAMODARAN ASAN :
34. To reduce the allotment of Rs, 3.02,694 for Proverthy Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR :
35. To omit the allotment of Rs. 19,140 for Revenue Supervisors.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN :
36. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 46,278 for establishment by Re. 1.

MR N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB :
37. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 27,966 for Taluk Settlement officers, etc., by Rs. 693.

MR. T. S. JAYANTHAN NAMPUTIRI :
38. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 575 for travelling allowances by Rs. 2.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR :
39. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 6,623 for establishment by Re. 1.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI :
40. To omit the allotment of Rs. 11,067 for Revenue Settlement.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI :
41. To omit the allotment of Rs. 11,067 for Revenue Settlement.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI;
42. To omit the allotment of Rs. 11,067 for Revenue Settlement.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI :
43. To omit the allotment of Rs. 11,067 for Revenue Settlement.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN :
44. To reduce the allotment of Rs 11,067 for Revenue Settlement by Re 1.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI ;
45. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,067 for Revenue Settlement by Re. 1.

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MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI :

46. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,067 for Revenue Settlement by Re. 1.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI :

47. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,03,114 under Demand I by Re. 1.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI :

48. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,03,114 under Demand I by Re. 1.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI :

49. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,03,114 under Demand I by Rs. 5.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI :

50. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,03,114 under Demand I by Rs. 100.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI :

51. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,03,114 under Demand I by Rs. 100.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI :

52. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,03,114 under Demand I by Rs. 100.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI :

53. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,03,114 under Demand I by Rs. 100.

MR. S. J. NAIR :

54. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,03,114 under Demand I by Rs. 9,03,113.

Demand I—Land Revenue for Rs. 9,03,114 less Re. 1 and Rs. 10 was then put to the vote of the House and carried.

The demand was granted.

The House adjourned at 4·32 P. M. to meet the next day.

K. MADHAVA KURUP,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

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